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REGULAR



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SENATOR TURPIE, of Indiana, in a recent speech in Congress on the Dependent Pension Bill said: "The historian of the war will be as remarkable a personage as any of the actors therein. In the pages of this future Thucydides one character, as the armed champion of the Union, will appear proudly eminent upon the march, in the bivouac, in the assault, in the imminent deadly breach, in captivity to the insolent foe, hoping all things, enduring all things—the man with the musket, the private in the ranks, the chief beneficiary of this measure."

THE detail of the U. S. S. *Pensacola* for the transport to Venezuela of the remains of the deceased General Paez is particularly fortunate at this time, when so many questions of international trade and business are being discussed between the Great Republic of the North and the Republics of the South, and is likely to give fresh incitement to the friendship already existing between the two peoples. The recently granted concession to the American Telephone Company is an indication that the monopoly of business at one time enjoyed by English merchants is less complete than heretofore. Several Army and Navy people are interested in this concession. It is expected before the end of the year a telephone communication will be established in several of the more important cities of Venezuela.

THE total number of persons in the employment of the United States Government is estimated at 171,746. Of these the Army and Navy furnish about one quarter, or 42,446; viz: Army, officers and men, 29,468; Navy, including Marine Corps, 13,248. Thus it would appear that about one and a half per cent. of the total adult male population is in the Government service. Leaving out of the reckoning the Navy, who are supposed to be out at sea where they can't do any mischief, we have at least four hundred stalwart sons of freemen watching each member of the Army, counting in officers and men, retired list and all, to see that they don't run away with our liberties. We have our eye upon you, gentlemen of the Army, and it becomes you to have a care as to how you meddle with "treason, stratagems and spoils."

At the last session of Congress \$40,000 was appropriated for the purchase and arrangement of buildings and appliances thereon, of a new site for a Naval Ordnance Proving Ground, and during the year just expired the Ordnance Bureau has been endeavoring to find a location suitable in all respects for the purpose, so far, however, without success. With the high powered guns being furnished for the Navy, coupled with the necessity for a range proof as well as other tests, the requirements for a proving ground are very difficult to find combined in a suitable location, easy of access from the gun factories and of sufficient extent to be quite secure against the infliction of injury to the inhabitants of the neighboring country. Commodore Sicard reports that while so far unsuccessful in his quest, he hopes to fix upon a desirable site in time, and in the meanwhile the search is continued.

THE London *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "Steps are to be taken at once to appropriate to each ship in the first division of the Steam Reserve a certain proportion of their engine-room staff, and

these men—possibly relieved from time to time and one by one if necessary—will go to sea in the ship, so that there will always be a nucleus of artificers and stokers who know their way about when she is commissioned. But why should this obvious improvement be limited to the machinery department? Surely it is equally important that there should be some men acquainted with the working of the guns of such ships as the *Collingwood*—when she gets away—and the *Benbow* before they are commissioned. Another change for the better is that in future the cabins of all officers will be furnished for them, as is done now in the troopships; but they will have to pay an annual 7½ per cent. on the value of the articles supplied."

THE question of the sabre is most admirably summed up at the conclusion of an article entitled "Coups de pointe et coups de sabre," which appeared in the French "Revue de Cavalerie" of May last. The question as to the form of the sabre, said this writer, "is decided by history; it should be variable, it is a question of the horse. The question of the length to be adopted is decided by the biceps of the man; it is a question of recruiting. Finally, as the conclusion of conclusions, as a last epilogue it may be added: That the shape of the sabre is nothing, that the weapon is nothing, that everything lies in the wrist and the will to use it. Send into the cavalry men of courage, fond of the blade, *friends de la lame*, as used to be said, and the shape of the sabre will be settled. Samson with the simple jaw-bone of an ass did more service in his time than twenty squadrons perhaps could do in another epoch with the best of sabres."

Broad Arrow is inclined to think that the amount of the powder charges and the high velocities so frequently said to be attained by our modern breech-loaders are constantly over-stated. It says: "We were recently told that one of the *Benbow's* 110 guns had given a velocity of 2,100 feet to its projectile, but this," it thinks, "was an exceptional charge—perhaps a proof charge. The powder charge is officially stated to be 900 lbs., and the weight of the projectile to be 1,800 lbs." It questions whether "these *Benbow* guns can be fired with 900 lbs. of powder on service. In the case of the 5-ton gun, the powder charge is given as 55 lbs. and the projectile as 100 lbs. weight, but when the *Curacoa* recently tested her 5-ton guns 42 lbs. of powder only were used as the highest charge per round, and 21 lbs. as the reduced charge. A similar reduction has been made in the small quick-firing 3-pounder, the charge of which has been reduced from 1½ lbs., which gave a velocity of over 2,000 feet, to 1¼ lbs., which gave a velocity of 1,863 feet; and it seems probable that similar reductions will have to be made in the case of the larger guns."

THE proposition to do away with the breastplates of the ten regiments of cuirassiers of the Prussian Army seems likely to be adopted. The romance of war is fast disappearing under the influence of small calibre repeating rifles, slow-burning powders and the terrible *mitraille* of quick-firing machine guns. "The knights are dust, their swords are rust." Speculating upon this sacrifice of sentiment to utility, a writer in a recent number of *Allgemeine Militar Zeitung* says: "The cuirassiers were created and organized by Frederick William the First. There are really ten regiments wearing the brass (yellow), steel (white), or iron

(black) breastplates. The regiment of Cuirassiers of the Guard, the regiment of Brandenburg, and the sub-officers of the Pomeranian regiment have brass armor; all the others steel—the *gard du corps* possessing in addition iron cuirasses presented to them by Alexander First, of Russia. The helmets are of either steel or white metal. The average weight of the cuirass is sixteen and one half lbs." "Practically the armor is no longer a reliable protection to its wearer against the projectiles of infantry. This is proven by recent experiments with rifles of small calibre, which have demonstrated the absolute inefficiency of the cuirass. The plates are pierced as easily as if made of paper; when worn upon uniformed dummies the projectiles have made so quick work with them that it has been decided useless for the soldiers to continue to bear their weight—the bullets carrying away not only strips of the armor but also of the quilting behind it."

WE publish elsewhere the principal tables accompanying G. O. 79, A. G. O., giving the results of the target and carbine firing of the Army for the target year 1887. It will be seen that in general merit the Department of the Platte takes the lead with 78.83, being nearly nine per cent. in advance of the Department next following it, Texas, with 69.90. All the Departments have over 60 per cent. except Arizona, which has 51.24, the average for the Army being 65.86. Among the posts, Fort McHenry, Md., takes the lead in the general figure of merit, having 118.43. Following after, in the order named, are Fort Porter, 114.36; Washington Barracks, 109.09; Camp Pilot Butte, 108.51; Little Rock Barracks, 100.04; Fort Bennett, 99.99; Fort Du Chesne, 98.52; Jackson Barracks, 98.09; Fort Sidney, 93.03; Fort McKinney, 90.33; Fort Thomas, Ariz., brings up the rear with 23.16, the next two lowest being in the same Department, Fort Grant 28.89 and Fort Lowell 33.15. Willet's Point following just ahead with 34.89. Considering the honors that the Engineer Battalion at Willet's Point used to win at Creedmoor, this is rather strange. Coming to regiments, we find the 3d Artillery at the head with a general figure of merit of 105.06. The next nine are the 21st Infantry, 97.25; 17th Infantry, 86.74; 7th Infantry, 86.68; 2d Artillery, 78; 2d Infantry, 76.70; 14th Infantry, 76.31; 5th Infantry, 76.16; 16th Infantry, 75.66, and 18th Infantry, 73.45. Co. F, 21st U. S. Infantry (Captain James A. Haughey) heads the list of companies with 131.11, and takes the Nevada Trophy. The next nine are I, 3d Artillery, 123.21; G, 3d Artillery, 120.79; E, 3d Artillery, 119.84; D, 23d Infantry, 117.61; H, 7th Infantry, 117.43; L, 3d Artillery, 115.12; I, 21st Infantry, 114.42; D, 3d Artillery, 112.50; K, 3d Artillery, 112.23. The 3d Artillery, which heads the regiments, had only nine batteries firing, C and F being Light batteries, and B, stationed at Newport Barracks, having no range available. The other companies of the 3d not named above rank in the following order: H, 18; A, 35, and M, 303. The total number of sharpshooters in the Army for 1887 is 129, the first ten being: 2d Lieutenant A. J. Lasseigne, 7th Infantry; 2d Lieutenant E. F. Ladd, 9th Cavalry; Corporal W. J. Murphy, K, 3d Artillery; Captain F. W. Hess, 3d Artillery; 1st Lieutenant E. P. Fremont, 3d Infantry; Captain W. P. Vose, 2d Artillery; Sergeant J. W. Weeks, E, 6th Infantry; 3d Lieutenant J. D. Barrette, 3d Artillery; Captain J. M. Lancaster, 3d Artillery; Sergeant A. W. Jame, B, 8th Cavalry.

STOP IT!!

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

PROBABLY there has seldom been such an example of annoying sport as the suspensions of the Treasury officials for the months growing small behind us. A border hanging bee is freer of big oaths than the laden mails have brought to these suspended accounts. The extravagance of the thing rivalled the conceit. The long advertisement, then posters, then assiduous hunt for a commissary contractor for cat meat, the question as to the official character of the U. S. Judge's proper paper, the lack of formal written contract for postage stamps or for steam engines to put out existing and actually raging fires; these have become open secrets for the amusement of many and the worry of a few. From morn to dew eye this bare baiting of disbursing officers went bravely on until, if we may "thank the Jew for that word," the officers themselves caught the clever trick and so the wonder grew. One of them says when you are ordered to Rock Island you must only go to a town, no matter what laws are published in G. O. No. 5, c. s., or where the soldiers are you come to see. Three others discuss through thick reams whether the quartermaster, paymaster, ordering officer, auditing officer or you shall choose what road you may or shall be ticketed over; some others say no matter if no one else travels a possible route it shall be the usual and shortest travelled one for you, and you shall not sleep all night on the only through route, if by changing cars often enough you can save miles though losing time. Some of those unknown official routes through undiscovered countries are as good as a lost time combination on one of Kate Castleton's crazy patches. And an officer about to be retired so he cannot do these things any more should be commiserated—not in the way the Commissary Department commiserates the poor soldier—but in a bald headed sort of fashion.

And then as to signatures. My! if we should tell you all the things some have been made to suffer on the subject of signatures, you might think the joke "one of the firm" kind, though it was not kind at all. Putting "Treasurer" after a signature makes one grin, or even two, too, for the Washington fellow must see it. Why, it is as sweet as fig syrup and has the same effect. Try it. But when a Norwegian party, mixed with just enough mokes to give a spicy flavor of pepper and salt, establish a bank on the Missouri by the free use of rubble and wattle, and between times get hungry and eat something and we pay for it, and certify on the voucher that it has long gone 40 feet of animal economy multiplied by the number of fifteenth amendments and Scandinavians, respectively; and months afterwards that Washington clerk wishes us to take it all up again on the list of articles purchased and handled it over on the abstract of articles expended and sign that, and turn up a nose at them again, on the return of articles received, issued and remaining on hand and sign that. Now would you? Did you ever play "poor puss want a corner" with these fellows in Washington? If you ever do please teach them how they look for want of sense. Perhaps you wonder how many of those examiners, searchers, clerks and things there ever had any experience in the matters they are passing judgment on. The system of having the ignorant judge the wise "has bubbles as the water bath and these are of them." And as there is no cure let us smile demure. For you know you ought always go his mile with any one who asks you to.

Is there no way to induce the every day barnyard sort of people they make auditors and comptrollers out of to understand that they are there to have Government business done in the Government way, according to the demands of experience, common sense, efficiency and economy, and the first thing they have to do if they care to act decorously is to learn the adopted ways before they go to acting like a bull in a china shop? Not that there is anything special to be said against china shops nor bulls. The number of thousands of dollars already and still being wasted in advertising, in clerk hire, and in throwing illegal and unexpected trammels and dangers around Government business by the ignorant and injudicious and unprecedented rulings of these callow officials may never be announced, but we claim it is a shame that the fun of the thing should be so buried. Think of the pretence of wisdom in a Treasury clerk now determining the exigency of night labor on a Mississippi crevasse, and the expenditure of material to guard against the spring ice in the lakes, or the destruction of ships to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands, and of horses on account of glanders, but not of men. Men are about the only thing the Treasury officials now claim can drop out of the Government service without their passing on the propriety of it. As this fair on the men? They get blown up like ships and killed like horses and appear on the papers with as great a particularity as anything. Let us try to console ourselves with the hope that these Treasury fellows will look after us, too, with the same foolish care displayed for the other things they can know nothing about, if we only give them time to catch on. They are growing all the time, and being nothing but clerks we may turn over in our graves and laugh when they begin to make the survivors sling ink about the regularity of our last battle—whether the General was authorized by law to cut loose from his base, whether such an expensive arm as dismounted cavalry could legally be used for such a purpose when infantry was supplied under the statute for that very purpose; whether the General should not be called upon to refund the expenses of our education at the Academy for wasting us in this unauthorized manner, and whether he could furnish satisfactory affidavits that such expensive Government property as we are were really entirely destroyed, or there were no parts of us which could be used over and sold. These and many more such points they know how to bring forward to "dull the edge of husbandry." And surely if applied with their usual skill to our Generals, would produce results similar to what we see progressing in every department of Government. Alert activity, initiative and vim would continue in this new field to find encouragement and freedom and inducements in the sharp words of the Treasury officials. The papers required as they grow ever longer, more complex and more exigent would become clearer and clearer, until any one could tell at once on receiving a return of dead and wounded at the Treas-

ury Department exactly whether they reported money, men or stove pipes, as every one now knows when a voucher is made out for the Treasury clerk's eye for services exactly what proportion of expenditure was for work and what for material. Of course there is no way to induce the Treasury officials to understand that Government work would go on better without their meddling in what they can know nothing about. If they did not meddle there might be fewer of them, and fewer clerks in every department. They frame the laws and they must meddle. And meddle more and more. And if we wish to laugh now all right. But they laugh best who laugh last. *Viva la bagatelle!* But who can bag the teller? TEL HUR.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

CAPTAIN J. H. DORST, 4th U. S. Cav., of West Point, visited Boston, Mass., this week.

SURGEON G. M. STERNBERG, U. S. A., left Washington this week on a short trip to Brunswick, Ga.

LIEUT. L. P. DAVISON, 11th U. S. Inf., rejoined at Fort Ontario, N. Y., this week from a short leave.

LIEUT. H. D. STYER, 21st U. S. Inf., visiting at Lancaster, Pa., has received a month's extension of his leave.

LIEUT. PERCEY E. TRIPPE, 10th U. S. Cav., under recent promotion, changes bases from San Carlos to Fort Grant.

CAPTAIN LEWIS JOHNSON, 24th U. S. Infantry, was to leave Fort Sill, Indian Territory, this week on a month's leave.

LIEUT. J. A. DAPRAY, A. D. C., has returned to Los Angeles from a trip to posts in Arizona, including San Carlos.

CHAPLAIN J. V. LEWIS, U. S. A., says the Omaha Herald, is probably one of the most talented men in the Episcopal Church.

MRS. GRANT, widow of Gen. Grant, U. S. A., was the recipient of much social and public attention during her recent stay at St. Augustine, Fla.

MR. GARLINGTON, a brother of Lieut. E. A. Garlington, 7th U. S. Cav., is the senior member of the newly appointed post trader firm at Fort Meade.

CAPTAIN FRANK G. SMITH, 4th U. S. Art., of Fort Adams, R. I., visited Fort Preble, Me., this week, and was cordially received by his brother officers there.

LIEUTENANT CHAS. A. BENNETT, 3d U. S. Artillery, will leave Washington early in April for the West and will return towards the end of April with a bride.

CAPTAIN W. B. KENNEDY, 10th U. S. Cavalry, is preparing to close up the recruiting rendezvous at Atlanta, Ga., and will report at Jefferson Bks. early in April.

CAPTAIN BYRON DAWSON, 9th U. S. Cavalry, was expected at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., this week to appear before the Retiring Board presided over by Gen. Merritt.

CAPTAIN J. H. CALEF, 2d U. S. Artillery, now on special duty at Fort Monroe, Va., will leave there early in April to join his battery at Jackson Bks., New Orleans.

LIEUTENANT J. A. HUTTON, 8th U. S. Infantry, will join at David's Island, N. Y. H., early in April after closing up the recruiting rendezvous at Charleston, South Carolina.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., recently gave an interesting address on "The Power of Little Things" before the inmates of the prison at San Quentin, Cal.

LIEUTENANT R. G. PROCTER, 5th U. S. Artillery, who has been on sick leave for some months past at Auburn, Ky., is expected to join his battery at Fort Hamilton about the middle of May.

The general court-martial convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for the trial of Lieut. F. D. Sharp, 20th U. S. Inf., has concluded its business, and the proceedings have been handed in to Gen. Merritt.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR JOHN ROSS, who has been appointed to succeed Lord Alexander Russell in the command of the British troops in Canada, is a hero of the war in the Crimea, the Indian mutiny and the Afghan war.

OWING to the storm Asst. Surg. J. E. Pilcher, U. S. Army, has postponed reading before the Military Service Institution at Governor's Island his paper on "The Transportation of the Wounded," which was originally fixed for Tuesday of this week.

MAJOR J. B. CAMPBELL, Captain, 4th U. S. Artillery, will leave Fort Monroe, Va., with his battery for his new station, Fort Warren, Mass., about April; Capt. J. P. Story, 4th Art., leaving Fort Warren with his battery for Fort Monroe about the same time.

LIEUTENANT R. P. P. WALN WRIGHT, Adjutant, 1st U. S. Cavalry, of Fort Custer, says the Miles City Journal, was a visitor at Fort Keogh Sunday, being the guest of Lieut. O. F. Long. Yesterday he spent in our city looking after his many real estate investments. He has for years shown his faith in our young city by investing a very considerable sum here, particularly in residence property.

A DESPATCH of March 9 from York, Pa., says: "A deliberate and cold blooded murder was committed this evening in the rooms of Post 37, G. A. R., in this city. Dr. R. F. Stable was seated, engaged in conversation with some of the members of the Sons of Veterans, when Elmer Reisinger, a rejected West Point cadet entered. Dr. Stable greeted the newcomer kindly, and he replied: 'This is for you!' at the same time pointing a revolver directly at the Doctor's face and firing. The surgeons summoned expressed the opinion that he could not survive. No cause has been assigned for the assassination. Elmer Reisinger, the assassin, was appointed as a cadet to West Point and was recently rejected, failing to pass an examination, and had only returned to York, his home, a few weeks ago. After committing the deed he walked to the jail and surrendered himself."

LIEUTENANT E. G. GARLINGTON, 7th U. S. Cavalry, was in St. Paul recently on a three weeks' leave from Fort Meade.

LIEUTENANT F. T. VAN LIEW, 2d U. S. Infantry on leave from Fort Omaha, is visiting friends at Plainfield, New Jersey.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. S. BRISBIN, 9th U. S. Cavalry, has left Fort McKinney, Wyo., to be absent for six weeks, during which time the post will be commanded by Capt. D. W. Benham, 7th U. S. Infantry.

POST CHAPLAIN JOHN W. JACKSON, U. S. A., who is to be retired for age on Tuesday next, March 20, was appointed from Pennsylvania in 1877. He is now on leave at his home, No. 2213 Greene street, Philadelphia.

CAPTAIN RANDOLPH NORWOOD, 2d U. S. Cavalry, who has been spending the winter at 752 W. Saratoga street, Baltimore, went to Washington this week to be examined by the Retiring Board, of which Gen. Holabird is president.

DR. J. C. WORTHINGTON, Asst. Surgeon, U. S. A., now stationed at Fort Crawford, Col., has applied for a four months' leave of absence and will visit the East early this summer. This is the first time the Doctor has been East in over four years.

1st LIEUT. WILLIAM A. NICHOLS, 23d Inf., of Fort Brady, son of Mrs. Nichols, the postmistress at Fort Leavenworth, is at the post, and the presumption is that he will go on duty at the military prison very shortly. He is a conscientious, faithful officer, and will be a credit to the place.—Leavenworth Times.

CAPTAIN F. D. GARRETTY, 17th U. S. Infantry, recruiting officer at St. Paul, is highly complimented by the Globe of that city for his zeal and promptness in the execution of his duty. He is securing, says the Globe, some splendid specimens of physical manhood, many of whom are young men of more than ordinary intelligence.

CORPORAL WALTER S. DUNN, Co. 1, 6th Inf., was tried at Fort Douglas, Utah, for representing himself as an officer and compelling a soldier of Troop E, 9th Cav., to give him compliments to Lieut. Styer, 21st Inf., at Salt Lake, with a request that he call on Dunn. He was sentenced to reduction in rank, with one month's forfeiture of pay and confinement.

A NEW ORLEANS correspondent writes: "An enjoyable german was given by the 'Sinners Club' Wednesday night. Miss Amy Remiss and Miss Beckert, originators of the delightful scheme, deserve the thanks of all concerned. So also does Surgeon Williams, U. S. A., of Jackson Barracks, who kindly allowed the use of one of the hospital wards as a ball-room."

COL. GEORGE GIBSON, 5th Inf., stationed at Fort Keogh, M. T., is in the city. His presence here revives the rumors of a projected change of station of the 5th Inf. Maj. John W. Clous, Judge Advocate at Washington, D. C., registered at Headquarters Division of the Missouri, yesterday. Maj. Clous is a brother-in-law of Col. H. C. Corbin, Asst. Adjt.-General.—Chicago Tribune, March 7.

THE irreverent San Francisco News Letter does not sympathize with the new regime at the Presidio to which our correspondent in San Francisco recently referred. It says: "The new Commandant at the Presidio is drilling the very life out of the rank and file. In former times the poor devils had a whack at it twice a week, but now they have to march and countermarch every day. Not alone do the rank and file suffer, but some of the very best dancing lieutenants are so fondered that the civilians have now the leadership of the Germans all their own way."

THE Salem Vidette, referring to the recent promotion of Sergt. A. Cabanis, Troop B, 4th Cav., to 2d Lieutenant, 20th Inf., says: "Young Cabanis, after doing some good work in the newspaper business in Oregon several years ago, made up his mind that he wanted to become an officer in the Regular Army, and saw but one way to accomplish his purpose, and that was to enlist and rise from the ranks. He went to Arizona and enlisted, and it was not long before he attracted the attention of his superiors. He did one remarkably rough and responsible piece of rough riding as bearer of despatches about two and one-half years ago, which made his promotion sure, and it has come at last. Young Cabanis has fine natural abilities."

THE Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. Ella M. Grover, report that her husband, who served thirty-five years in the Army, from the beginning to the close of his military life was devoted to his profession, performed valuable service, endured exposure and severe hardships, and that during the War of the Rebellion he distinguished himself on many occasions by his gallantry and devotion. His death, it is believed, was hastened by exposure to the rigid climate of Fort Custer. His widow is left with three children, her only means the pension of \$30 a month. In view of her need and her husband's long and valuable service, the committee are of the opinion that it is only an act of justice to give her a pension at the rate of \$50 a month.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL SHERIDAN, says Frank G. Carpenter, in an interesting account in the New York World of the gallant General, "at home and in his office," says: "Gen. Sheridan is a good judge of human nature, and is a good judge of men. He seems to size up a man at a glance, and he can usually tell what he wishes to do in matters at issue. He is much opposed to being forced to do anything, and if he thinks there is any attempt to force him, he kicks very decidedly against the pricks, and as a rule kicks to some purpose. I believe that the real reason why he would not give interviews as to his birthplace was because some of the newspaper men were evidently trying to bulldoze him into it. He is a soldier all over, but there is nothing of the blustering soldier about him. He is as modest as a girl, and he would rather go into battle than make a speech before an audience of ladies and gentlemen. He goes, as his position requires, into Washington society, but I imagine that he likes his home life better, and that his happiest hours are those when little Phil, Jr., sits upon his knee and the twins hang around him asking for stories."

COLONEL J. B. BROWN, U. S. A., retired, has left Albion, N. Y., for Atlanta, Ga.

COL. J. OAKES, U. S. A., retired, is one of the recent arrivals at Fort Monroe, Va.

CAPTAIN CHARLES PARKER, 9th Cav., registered at Hdqrs. Division of the Missouri, March 8th.

1ST LIEUT. J. L. CHAMBERLAIN, 1st Art., has arrived at West Point from Hot Springs, Ark.

CAPTAIN J. A. BATES, retired, has recently taken quarters at the Woodmount, Washington, D. C.

2D LIEUTENANT W. P. BAKER, 10th Infantry, on leave from Fort Union, N. M., is at Amity, Ark.

1ST LIEUT. S. W. MILLER, 5th Inf., has gone from New York to Fort Monroe, Va. He is still on leave.

A SON was born at Plattsburg Barracks, March 9, to the wife of Capt. W. O. Owen, the post surgeon.

2D LIEUTENANT R. H. ANDERSON, 9th Infantry, on leave from Whipple Barracks, is at Richmond, Va.

LIEUTENANT A. P. BUFFINGTON, 7th U. S. Inf., is East from Fort Washakie, Wyo., on a month's leave.

MAJOR G. W. BAIRD, Pay Department, the new post paymaster at Boston, has taken quarters at 159 High street.

CAPTAIN A. BARNITZ, retired, has arrived at Cleveland, O., from San Francisco, Cal. His address is 1,676 Cedar avenue.

CAPTAIN C. AUGER, 2d Cavalry, left Washington, where he has been on several months' leave, for Fort Bidwell on March 15.

1ST LIEUT. D. I. EZEKIEL, U. S. A., retired, has arrived at Cincinnati, O., from Denver, Col. His address is 150 Myrtle avenue.

LIEUT. COL. J. C. BATES, 13th Inf., of the Tactics Board, has changed his quarters from the Ebbitt House to 1,336 I street, N. W.

CAPTAIN A. H. GOODLOE, U. S. A., retired, has recently returned from a European trip and is now residing at 56 Winder street, Detroit.

CAPTAINS J. C. GILMORE, 24th Inf., and E. S. Godfrey, 7th Cav., members of the Board on Tactics, have taken quarters at 1,234 I street, N. W.

CAPT. C. PARKER, 9th Cav., has arrived at Chicago, Ill., from San Bernardino, Cal. His present address is 3,902 Lake avenue. He is still on leave.

MAJOR H. C. HASBROUCK, 4th Art., has taken rooms at the Woodmount, where he will remain until he has finished his labors in connection with the revision of the Tactics.

1ST LIEUTENANT G. ANDREWS, 25th Infantry, a member of the Board on Tactics, has changed his quarters from the Ebbitt House to 1016 15th street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

We are indebted to Major B. F. Rittenhouse, U. S. Army, secretary and treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C., for a copy of the latest Register of that institution, which gives the names of the officers, resident inmates, and beneficiaries. It is a handy document.

MISS BERTHA ROSE BARNITZ, daughter of Col. Albert Barnitz, U. S. A., retired, was recently tendered a complimentary hop at Fort Davis, Tex., before leaving that post. Col. Barnitz and family were at Fort Davis to attend the wedding of Miss Otis, daughter of Col. Elmer Otis, 8th U. S. Cav.

LIEUT. S. S. PAGUE, U. S. A., now on duty at the State College, Centre Co., Penn., has invented and patented a simple device for stacking guns and carbines in tents. It is a wooden rack that can be attached to the tent pole, and which will hold two, four or six guns. It is described in an announcement which appears in our advertising columns.

2D LIEUTENANT H. T. ALLEN, 2d Cavalry, has lately arrived in Paris from Russia, where he has been spending a few months' leave for the purpose of learning the language of that country. He is expected in Washington in the early part of April. It is his desire to continue his explorations in Alaska during the coming summer if official sanction can be obtained.

Of all the striking instances of devotion to duty on the part of the journalists of New York that were displayed during the blizzard of last Monday, none surpassed that of Miss Middy Morgan, of the N. Y. Times. She had duties to perform at her desk, and on Monday morning she left her house on 57th street and walked to the Times building. With justifiable pride she states that she made the trip of over four miles in less than one and one-half hours. The duke of the period who fancies himself a pedestrian may ponder over the history of this feat. Miss Morgan, though she is a woman, and a lady most highly esteemed by all who know her, is one of the best judges of horseflesh in the country. She is the daughter of an officer of the English Army, and was at one time employed by Victor Emanuel in selecting his horses. She has a handsome watch, presented her by the Re Galantuomo.

CAPTAIN R. L. MEADE, U. S. Marine Corps, left Boston, Mass., early in the week on a month's leave.

AN SIN, a Chinese landsman on board a man-of-war, has received a pension of \$8 a month for injuries received from an explosion, with arrears of \$350.

THE following officers have registered at the Navy Department the past week: Capt. H. B. Robeson, Chief Engr. John Johnson, P. A. Engr. C. C. Kleckner, Lieut. Chas. A. Adams, Lieut. F. J. Drake, P. A. Paymaster J. N. Speel, Lieut. Comdr. Asa Walker, Chief Engr. Ezra J. Whitaker, Ensign R. B. Dashiell, Asst. Engr. J. L. Wood.

It is not probable that a successor to Chief Engr. Wharton of the Trenton will be appointed until the ship reports her arrival on the station. It will be recalled that Mr. Wharton was invalided home from the ship previous to her departure from the island of St. Vincent on Feb. 22 last. In the meantime P. A. Engr. Main remains in charge of his department on the Trenton.

PASSED ASSISTANT SURGEON S. W. BATTLE, U. S. Navy, retired, read some weeks ago before the County Medical Society at Asheville, N. C., an instructive paper on "Climate, and the Climatic Treatment of Disease, with Special Reference to the Merits of the Asheville Plateau." The paper has been issued in pamphlet form.

Two retirements in the Medical Corps of the Navy will take place on July 18 and 19 next, when Medical Directors Peck and Shippen will be taken off the active list. These retirements will promote Medical Inspectors John C. Spear and Archibald C. Rhodes, Surgeons Thearon Wolverton and Chas. H. White, and Passed Asst. Surgeons Geo. E. H. Harmon and Howard Wells.

THE Board of Managers of the Sailors' Coffee House in Brooklyn, Geo. L. Pease, secretary, at a meeting held in their rooms, adopted resolutions commemorative of Rear Admiral James W. A. Nicholson, U. S. N., one of its originators, "who when in active service did so much by his counsel, influence and means to sustain this refuge for tempted and imperilled seamen, and rejoiced in its success."

ORDERS were issued from the Navy Department, March 7, directing Lieut. Emory H. Taunt to report to the Naval Military Board, in session at the Department, on the 9th inst., for examination as to his physical condition. Whatever the result of this examination, it will probably be final, and it is not unlikely that prompt action will be taken by the Secretary of the Navy as soon as the report of the Medical Board shall have been laid before him.

A ST. AUGUSTINE paper, referring to the late Commodore Pickering, U. S. N., says: "He was a fine example of comely manhood; erect and agile, though suffering keenly from honorable wounds in his country's service, he gave no sign of the physical disquiet within, and our citizens will remember him as he appeared when last in our midst, dignified, courteous, punctilious in the observance of the amenities of life, and strongly attached to his friends and his native city."

LIEUTENANT ALBERT GLEAVES and Ensign Stokely Morgan, U. S. N., have succeeded in photographing a projectile in flight. The gun used was the Service Hotchkiss magazine rifle, weight of charge 70 grains, weight of lead bullet 405 grains, with an initial velocity of about 1,400 f. s. Similar experiments were performed in Austria last year, but it is believed that this is the first time that they have been successfully undertaken in this country, with such a high velocity and so small a projectile.

At the Treasury Department it is not expected that any further request will be made by Congress on the Secretary for additional deficiency cases under the Mullen decision until near the end of the session, so that it is probable that the cases given in the JOURNAL of last week as having been incorporated in the general deficiency bill, are the only ones which will be acted on for some time to come. In the meantime the various cases acted upon by the Court of Claims will be put into proper shape for transmission to Congress at short notice.

CAPTAIN H. B. ROBESON, U. S. N., having reported to Comm. Harmony as a member of the Naval Advisory Board, has taken up his residence at the "Richmond" on 17th st., Washington, and the prospect for a prolonged stop at the Capital seems very good. Thus far not much has been done by the re-modeled Advisory Board beyond getting papers, data, and documents into proper shape for rapid work later on. The mass of papers, accounts, etc., to be gone over by the Board is simply immense, and the utmost pains will be taken to insure a satisfactory and accurate result.

WHILE before the committee of Congress, the Surgeon General unofficially suggested a pay scheme for its consideration which he thought would put an end to all controversy on that point. He stated that he had compared the pay of the Navy with that of the Army and found that by adding \$100 each year to the pay of each officer in the Navy from the date of entry into the Service, it would approximate close upon the 10 per cent. increase of the Army. If such a pay scheme were adopted, the Surgeon General thought all discontent on account of the slowness of promotion would vanish. Pay would depend upon length of service solely and not rank, actual or relative.

RECENT DEATHS.

WILLIAM PUTNAM ENDICOTT, father of Secretary of War Endicott, who died at Salem, Mass., March 11, was the only living lineal descendant of John Endicott, first Governor of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay; was the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Putnam Endicott, and was born at Salem March 5, 1803. He was a gentleman of the old school. The family is an old one on both sides. The maternal grandfather of the present Secretary of War was Secretary of the Navy in Jefferson's Cabinet during his second term. The Endicotts have lived for four generations in the old Gen. Israel Putnam house in Salem. The family not long ago celebrated the 250th anniversary of the arrival in America of Sir John Endicott.

To quote from an exchange: "During the worst snow or any other sort of storm which has visited New York in many years, at a time when his endeavors on behalf of the brute creation could have been applied with more satisfactory results than at any other period of his eventful career, Henry Bergh, the humanitarian, breathed his last," at 5 A. M., March 12. He was born in the city of New York in 1828. His father was prominently known as the builder of the frigate President, that fought in the war of 1812, and was finally captured by the British, who so appreciated her remarkable speed that they took her to England and used her as a model to build frigates from.

GEN. D. H. STROTHER (Porte Crayon), who died at his home in Charleston, W. Va., March 1st, in the seventy-second year of his age, served on the staff of General McClellan early in the War of Secession, and afterwards with Generals Pope and Banks, finally becoming chief of staff to his cousin, General David Hunter. He was appointed Capt. and A. A.

G., March 6, 1862, and served three months until his appointment was vacated, June 1, 1862. He was afterwards appointed Colonel of the 3d W. Va. Cavalry, resigning Sept. 10, 1864, and receiving his brevet of Brig. General Aug. 23, 1865. He was Consul-General to Mexico from 1877 to 1884.

CARPENTER JOHN A. DIXON, U. S. N., retired, who died in Boston Feb. 27, entered the Navy in 1857 served with credit during the war, and was retired in 1884 for disability contracted in the line of duty. The funeral took place March 2, and was largely attended by relatives, friends, societies, etc.

MR. LOUIS STEVENSON CRAVEN, who died suddenly March 9 at San Diego, Cal., was a son of Commander Tunis A. Craven, U. S. N., who was blown up Aug. 5, 1864, by a torpedo while gallantly leading the ironclads into the bay of Mobile. The deceased gentleman was well known in New York City.

GEO. W. MORSE, who died in Washington March 8th, in the 76th year of his age, was the inventor of the breech-loading gun and the cartridge which bear his name. He was a nephew of the inventor of the telegraph, and was State Engineer of Louisiana previous to the War.

ELLIS B. WILLIAMS, editor of the Culpeper Exponent, a nephew of Gen. Robert Williams, U. S. A., was shot and killed at Culpeper, Va., March 1, by Edwin Barbours, editor of the Piedmont Advance. The difficulty arose about an uncompromising publication.

CAPTAIN ROBERT R. CARTER, who died March 8 at his home in Shirley, Charles City County, Va., entered the U. S. Navy in 1842, rose to lieutenant, and resigned in 1861 to join the Confederate Navy.

GENERAL PERRIER, of the French Army, for several years at the head of the Geodetic Department of the War Office, died a few days ago at Montpellier.

Mrs. C. M. J. B. FRAXLEY, widow of Dr. C. S. Fraxley, and mother of Paymaster L. A. Fraxley, U. S. Navy, died March 7, in the 78th year of her age.

JOHN REYNOLDS, a survivor of the famous charge of the six hundred at Balaklava, in the Crimean war, died at Buffalo, N. Y., March 12.

Mrs. MARY A. SHARP, who rendered eminent service during the war as a hospital nurse, died March 3 at Morseville, Ind.

DEFENDING SAN FRANCISCO.

LIEUT. EDWARD F. QUALTROUGH replies in a letter published in the San Francisco Examiner to a correspondent who criticised the statements contained in a letter to Commodore Belknap, from which we quoted some time ago. He says, among other things:

"The idea conveyed by my statement regarding the Comanche is perfectly correct, and 'it would be dangerous for the Triumph to attempt to force an entrance if opposed by the monitor.' While not denying that laminated armor is not equal in resistance to penetration to solid rolled armor, I think that our Civil War proved that it did turn the projectiles from even 8-inch rifles, and the turret of the Comanche is penetrable by the projectiles thrown by the guns of the Triumph only at short range; it does not offer a very good mark, and when hit the projectiles are apt to glance off.

"The assertion made by 'E. P. S.' that 'her armament consists of two 11 inch Rodman's of antiquated make and power, incapable of penetrating even the thinnest portion of the armor of the Triumph,' is indeed a revelation to me.

"As the officer in charge of the aforesaid guns, and all other guns at this station, I presume I may be pardoned if I decline to accept this statement, when I know that the Comanche has at present mounted on board, in complete readiness for service, two 15 inch guns, technically known as the Passaic class. They are registered as No. 17, weight, 42,110 pounds, and No. 18, weight, 42,070 pounds, respectively, and each throws a steel projectile weighing 482 pounds. The Comanche is not fast, but as the Triumph is to be on hand to attack, and consequently has not to be chased, and as it would not be the intention of the commander of the Comanche to run away, there appears to be no necessity for extraordinary speed. Again, I would be very much gratified if 'E. P. S.' would explain to my satisfaction how the Triumph, drawing 28 feet of water, which she does, is to manage to ram the Comanche which draws less than one-half as much, provided the latter takes position in 15 or 16 feet of water. Then, perhaps, the Triumph might have no better success with her Whitehead torpedoes than she did in 1881, in the smooth water of Callao Bay, when, after sending out a launch to be ready to recover the unloaded practice torpedo, she discharged one at a target. Instead of making for the target, the torpedo struck out for itself and passed completely through the launch.

"The man who engages in a sea fight must take all those chances into account. It differs materially from a French duel, and requires nerve and judgment.

"There is an officer of high rank at this yard, whose experience with armored vessels in war time is second to none, and he assures me that he would willingly attack the Triumph with the Comanche.

"E. P. S. should know, but appears to forget, that England's ironclads would not find themselves anywhere near Esquimaux after steaming 6,000 miles, as the distance is nearer 15,000, and that the formidable array of ships and guns cited by him, from English reports, will find all their work out for them much nearer home than the coast of California."

ARTILLERY POSITIONS AT GETTYSBURG.

WITH a view to marking the artillery positions on the battlefield of Gettysburg with cannon such as were used during the battle, the Government has donated a number of such guns to the Battlefield Memorial Association. Thirteen have been received from the Rock Island (Ill.) Arsenal and have been mounted on iron gun carriages alongside the various battery monuments.

THE FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

The urgency deficiency bill has passed both houses and is now in the hands of the conference committee.

A favorable report has been adopted by the House Naval Committee on the bill providing a temporary home on board receiving ships for seamen between terms of enlistment.

Gen. Steele, having finally received the views of the War Department on his Army reorganization bill, expects to have it in shape to present to the full committee in a few days. Among the changes is a reorganization of the artillery arm on the basis proposed by the Wheeler bill, with the exception that six companies are provided for instead of seven. An increase in the number of enlisted men will also be provided for in the reconstructed bill. The provisions requiring examination before promotion and in regard to the pay of retired officers, Gen. Steele says, will not be changed. The measure, as a whole, however, will probably undergo many changes before it is finally acted upon by the full committee.

The Secretary of War has sent to the House a draft of a bill making enlisted men of the Signal Corps responsible for the property in their charge. The Secretary says that it is a great hardship and a wrong to hold, as is now done in the Signal Office, the disbursing officer personally, officially and financially responsible for millions of dollars' worth of property not in his custody, and over which he cannot possibly have control, scattered, as it is, over the entire country.

The Committee on Military Affairs has agreed to a favorable report on Mr. Laird's joint resolution appropriating \$10,000 and certain guns, ammunition, a monitor, etc., for experiments with the Graydon dynamite shell.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs have reported adversely on the following bill, saying that as the subject received full consideration at the time the law was passed they do not consider it judicious at this time to recommend a change:

S. 1022, Manderson. That the act entitled "An act to authorize a retired list for privates and non-commissioned officers of the U. S. Army who have served for a period of 30 years and upward," approved Feb. 14, 1865, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows: "That when an enlisted man has served as such 30 years in the U. S. Army or Marine Corps, either as a private or non-commissioned officer, or both, he shall, by making application to the President, be placed on the retired list hereby created, with the rank held by him at the date of retirement; and he shall thereafter receive 75 per centum of the pay and allowances of the rank upon which he was retired: Provided, That all such persons who have so served and are living at the time of the passage of this act, but who may have been discharged prior to the passage of the act of which this is amendatory, shall be entitled to the benefit hereof."

BILLS INTRODUCED—SENATE.

S. 2243, Manderson. That the law giving to officers of the U. S. Army 10 per centum additional pay for every five years' service, be, and the same is hereby, amended to the effect that they shall receive, and be paid accordingly, at the termination of every one year's service, 3 per centum of their pay additional for each and every one year's service.

DIRECTORY TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

To ALL intents and purposes the law requiring the outside bureaus of the War Department to move into the State, War and Navy Department building on or before March 1st, was complied with, and thus the War Department keeps up its reputation for obedience to orders. There was, indeed, considerable work done after the 1st in the way of straightening out books, papers, files, erecting shelves, bookcases, etc., but the new wings were formally turned over to the Secretary of War by Col. Casey, the officer in charge of construction, on the 1st inst., and on that day Chief Engineer Thom Williamson, U. S. N., assumed charge of the care of the entire building.

For the information of strangers visiting the building we give below the numbers of the rooms occupied by all the officers and officials of the War Department:

Secretary of War, No. 20, west wing.
Private Secretary, No. 31, west wing.
Major Adams and Capt. Taylor, No. 32, w. w. (probably).
John Tweedale, chief clerk, No. 34, west wing.
Lieut.-Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, H. Q. A., No. 29, n. wing.
Major Michael V. Sheridan, 28, n. w.; Capt. Sanford C. Kellogg, 33, n. w.; Capt. Stanhope E. Blunt, 37, n. w.
Adjt. Gen. R. C. Drum, No. 77, west wing.
Col. John C. Kelton, A. A. G., 65, w. w.; Maj. O. D. Greene, A. A. G., 73, n. w.; Major Henry C. Wood, A. A. G., 67, w. w.; Major Thomas Ward, A. A. G., 74, n. w.; Major Theodore Schwarz, A. A. G., 31, n. w.; R. C. Thian, chief clerk, 73, w. w.
Inspt.-Gen. A. Baird, No. 22, north wing.
Major H. J. Farnsworth, 33, n. w. W. H. Orsutt, chief clerk, 25, n. w.
Acting Judge Advocate General G. N. Lieber, 73, w. wing.
Major J. W. Clous, 74, w. w. F. G. Saxton, chief clerk, 75, w. w.
Quartermaster-General B. B. Holabird, No. 107, w. wing.
Lieut.-Col. C. G. Sawtelle, 105, w. w.; Major J. Gilla, 105, w. w.; Lieut.-Col. B. C. Card, 96, w. w.; Lieut. Col. G. B. Dandy, 9, w. w.; Capt. J. F. Rodgers, 97, w. w. Mr. J. Z. Dore, chief clerk, 108, w. w.
Commissionary-General R. Macfeely, No. 123, west wing.
Lieut.-Col. R. De Barry and Major J. H. Gilman, 140, n. w.; Wm. A. De Cindry, chief clerk, 139, n. w.
Surgeon-General John Moore, No. 115, west wing.
Col. J. H. Baxter, 63, n. w.; Major C. R. Greenleaf, 116, w. w.; Major Chas. Smart, 25, n. w. Samuel Ramsey, chief clerk, 119, w. w.
Paymaster-General W. B. Rochester, No. 145, west wing.
Major D. Larned, 53, centre w.; Major W. F. Tucker, post paymaster, 3, w. w. G. D. Hanson, chief clerk, 144, w. w.
Chief of Engineers James C. Duane, No. 47, west wing.
Major J. C. Post, 43, w. w.; Capt. Thos. Turtle, 45, w. w. Wm. J. Warren, chief clerk, 49, w. w.
Chief of Ordnance S. V. Benét, No. 54, west wing.
Chief of Ordnance S. V. Benét, No. 54, west wing.
Capt. C. S. Smith, 53, w. w.; Capt. Rogers Birnie, Jr., 51, w. w.; Capt. V. McNally, 55, w. w.; Lieut. Wm. Crozier, 51, w. w. John J. Cook, chief clerk, 55, w. w.

LIEUT. JOHN C. IRVINE, U. S. N., of the receiving ship *Franklin*, has been to New York on a brief leave of absence, returning to Norfolk as soon as the baleful effects of the late blizzard permitted.

The following Army officers are registered at the War Department this week: 1st Lt. Walter F. Hallock, retired; Maj. Gen. Danl. Sickles, retired; 1st Lt. James Brennan, 17th Inf.; 1st Lt. W. A. Mason, 17th Inf.

WHAT IS SEEN AT FORT KEOGH.

Writing from Fort Keogh, a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record says:

"In summer we have the temperature as high as 123 degrees F. in the shade. On the night of Jan. 13 last the thermometer at this point sank to the awful temperature of 65 degrees below zero. Putting the two together we get a range of 188 degrees, the difference between the extremes, which leaves it a pretty hard matter for any other spot on the known globe to parallel.

"On the night in question the writer was in the open air, well wrapped up and comfortably protected by furs, and to own up to the plain honest facts, felt little or no discomfort while experiencing this wonderful degree of cold. Mercury freezes at 32 or 40 minus, and after that spirit thermometers must be depended upon. On that occasion, except when breathing through the mouth instead of through the nostrils, it was hard to conceive that the spirit bulb was caving around the 65 minus notch. The air was still, a deadly quiet reigned around, while the snow-covered ground seemed to reflect from its icy surface the scintillations of the stars above. I had never seen such a panorama in the heavens before. There was nothing out of the ordinary, only the stars seemed to dart forth like so many diamond points, sparkling and shooting out rays from a background of soft purplish black velvet, and seeming almost as if ready to drop from their lofty perches to the ground below. Sirius, the big Dog Star, was a wonderful blaze of light. I have seen this star in other latitudes, in other altitudes, and under all sorts of atmospheric conditions, but never have I seen him blaze and dart and sparkle and do his level best to eclipse in brilliancy all his bright brothers of stellar space as on the night of Jan. 13 last."

(Special Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.)

THE RICHMOND'S CRUISE.

U. S. FLAGSHIP RICHMOND,
ST. THOMAS, W. I., Feb. 4.

Two weeks ago to-day the U. S. flagship *Richmond* left the Brooklyn Navy-yard in company with the despatch boat *Dolphin* for her winter's cruise in the West Indies. The *Dolphin* succeeded in getting as far as Cienfuegos, Cuba, where a telegram from Washington caught her with an order to proceed to Valparaiso and join the Pacific station. For weeks it had been hinted that if the *Dolphin* did not get away from the New York Yard there was a very great possibility of her being sent to some other than the home station. Extra exertions were therefore made, and instead of remaining for another couple of months in New York for various reasons which had been originally mentioned as rendering such a stay necessary, she put to sea promptly on Jan. 21, closely followed by the *Richmond*.

The course of the *Richmond* was shaped for St. Thomas, 1,300 miles away, and ten days given her in which to make the passage. For the first 24 hours out the intense cold continued, a keen northerly blast howling through the rigging and freezing running gear and sails into such stifened masses as to render them practically useless. When off the Delaware capes a driving snowstorm was added, which lasted for several hours, giving place later, as the vessel passed to the southward of Hatteras, to regular "gulf weather," which was but preliminary to encountering the outer edge of a cyclone, that was run away from at the earliest possible moment.

On the third day out the thermometer showed a temperature that permitted the discarding of overcoats, and even induced some of the hardy mariners to indulge in the luxury of kicking off their regulation kip and calfskin shoes. We were in the latitude of Charleston, S. C., and every hour of the passage from that time on confirmed the fact that for us the winter was over. Divisions were called to quarters, and after a careful muster by the divisional officers an accurate inventory of pea-jackets and other superfluous winter garments taken previous to their relegation to store rooms below. White clothing began to be at a premium, and issues of such material as became necessary to fit out the entire crew in that line were at once called for, and as soon as practicable accomplished in strict conformity with the latest regulation circular, in the hearing and presence of the pay inspector and general storekeeper.

The long tailed blue overcoats of the marine guard disappeared from sight for the rest of the cruise, only the top capes remaining to them as a protection against rain squalls and dirty weather should any be met with hereafter. A field day for the barbers followed, resulting in the appearance about the decks of large numbers of what might have been very readily taken for escaped convicts or members of the fltic arena. The epidemic which causes this effect, being invariably prevalent on entering the tropics, possessed so little novelty as to excite small comment, not nearly so much as the lunar eclipse which occurred that evening.

Favoring breezes from the northwest stood by the *Richmond* until well to the southward of Bermuda; here, picking up the northeast trades, she carried them without incident until daylight of Jan. 30, when the morning watch discovered that directly ahead—

Lovely, fair and full of promise,
Lay the island of St. Thomas.

The U. S. Consul, Mr. Mortimer A. Thomas, of Virginia, pays us an official visit, the admiral and staff pay an official visit to the Governor, and visitors from St. Thomas come on board offering the hospitalities of the place to the officers generally during the stay of the *Richmond* in port. An official dinner is arranged for the Governor, to be given on board the flagship and another is to be given at Government House in honor of the admiral and officers of the squadron now here, and so the social ball is fairly opened. At the request of "so many prominent citizens" the flagship's band goes ashore in the evening and discourses sweet strains in the public garden, to the apparent delight of the greater portion of the community, who through the walks and promenades in the vicinity, and express their appreciation of each number by the most enthusiastic applause. At 9 o'clock a proposition to take advantage of the man of war boats at the landing and *faire un petit tour* on the placid waters of the bay, with a view to determining the precise effect of

music on the water, is started, and finds no lack of fair supporters. Whether this is satisfactorily ascertained or not by the time the boats return slowly to the landing, an hour or two later, and the rising moon looks calmly down and listens to the "Ermeline" lullaby as it floats lingeringly over the scene, will probably never be known. The general impression, however, seems to be that it was nothing short of an inspiration that prompted the scheme, and will be no lack of its appreciation for the remainder of the stay of the *Richmond*.

Every one speaks English in St. Thomas, although the island is still Danish. In the course of the most limited conversation it soon becomes evident that there is a strong desire on the part of the colonists to be taken under the protecting folds of the American flag. Denmark finds her colony, they argue, a burden, as it has ceased to be a source of revenue to her, and she would not be averse to disposing of it on reasonable terms. As for the people themselves, their feelings were pretty well expressed at a recent election, where the popular candidate, who holds the most pronounced views in regard to the advantages attending a protectorate of the United States, was declared unanimously elected, there being but one vote cast against him.

(Washington Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.)

IMPROVING OUR WATER WAYS.

CAPT. W. H. BIXBY, of the Corps of Engineers, has sent to the Washington correspondents, as a Government publication, a letter from Wilmington, N. C., calling attention to the great benefits derived by the country from river and harbor appropriations and improvements, especially in the South Atlantic and Gulf States. Capt. Bixby points out that the rivers and creeks of these States are, as a rule, "streams of gentle slope, considerable length, and moderate depth," obstructed mainly by sunken logs, snags, and fallen or overhanging trees. If these obstructions were thoroughly removed, he says, the rivers and creeks would at once appear in their true role of natural and economical navigable waterways, similar to and rivaling the artificial and more expensive canals of the Northern and Middle States. Freights would be reduced, towns developed, continuous and extended settlements would spring up, much tillable land would be reclaimed, and malarial regions would be rendered fit for habitation and culture. Capt. Bixby appends to his remarkable letter a table showing the results of river and harbor improvements in the States of North and South Carolina, in which he figures out that improvements on seven rivers for 532 miles, costing \$500,000, have developed an annual commerce of \$12,950,000 and reduced freight charges 35 per cent. These improvements, the Captain states, are not yet half completed, and to finish them fully double the amount already spent must be provided. Capt. Bixby closes with a special appeal for Winyan Bay, asserting that an "immediate outlay of \$800,000 there would undoubtedly quickly develop an additional South Carolina commerce of \$3,000,000 per year." If these recommendations are to be adopted, it may be assumed that the River and Harbor bill will be large enough to release to the people a considerable slice of the \$92,000,000 of surplus now in the Treasury.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

PENSACOLA NOTES.

REPAIRING and painting are now in vogue at the Navy-yard and already a vastly improved appearance results. The west gate, engine house, and some of the officers' quarters appear in new garb, and the commandant's office building is being thoroughly overhauled. The climate is severe upon wood and corrosive metal work, and such require constant attention. The coal wharf, which was in sore decay, has been made good for two or three years at comparatively small expense, and the other wharves are crying loudly for attention.

Work continues at the Marine Barracks and where there was only an area of barren white sand a few years ago one now sees a quadrangle of green turf surrounded by a group of cosy, cottage-like buildings painted in cheerful colors. The construction of the two large dormitories has been followed by a neatly latticed and shaded wash house, 14x30 ft., containing also bath room and barber shop, and the next addition will be the library, which will be done in about two weeks. This picturesque little building measures 16x20 ft., and has an overhanging roof covered with ornamental metallic shingles, a large bay window at the north end, and a broad gallery on two sides. A great many additional trees have been set out; Bermuda grass and alfalfa, the only kinds that withstand the intense heat have been planted in every spot that was bare, and the men have added, roses, lilies, etc., which increase the cottage features that the commanding officer has labored to attain.

By permission of the Navy Department, the little theatre which existed over the chapel has been transferred to one of the Yards and Docks buildings, vacated by the new storehouse system, where it was inaugurated last Wednesday night by an illustrated lecture upon "St. Petersburg, Moscow, and the Coronation of Alexandria III.," by Captain H. C. Cochrane, U. S. M. C. Nearly five hundred people were present, and the most enthusiastic applause was given the lecturer. Capt. Cochrane was one of the very few Americans who witnessed the coronation and he brought with him many views of the Kremlin and its surroundings which are adapted to his powerful lantern apparatus.

Asst. Naval Constructor Richard Gatewood has reported for temporary duty and will remain until the weather gets milder in the north. Lieut. and Mrs. G. Blockinger have also recently joined the naval colony and will reside in the Navy-yard, where quarters have been provided for them.

The retirement of Lieut. Col. Broome, March 8th, and the resulting promotions in the Corps of U. S. Marines, affects, among others, a well-known Washingtonian, 1st Lieut. H. H. Coston, raising him to the rank of Captain. The father of this officer was the inventor of the well-known naval night signals so long used in our Navy, and Capt. Coston himself, after the death of his father, did much toward perfecting the system. He is now stationed at the Norfolk Navy-Yard, Va.

Mrs. Brown, the wife of Lieut. R. M. G. Brown, U. S. N., and daughter of ex-Senator Davis, has been to Washington for some days, the guest of her friend Mrs. James E. Campbell. Lieut. Brown is attached to the U. S. frigate *Trenton*, now on her way to Valparaiso to become the flagship of the Pacific Squadron, under command of Rear Admiral L. A. Kimberly. Mrs. Brown has not yet determined whether she will join her husband or not. If, however, the *Trenton* is ordered to Honolulu or San Francisco, it is probable that she will do so.

THE PROPOSED NAVY PAY BILL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

HAVING read in your valuable paper of March 3 the proposed Navy pay bill, I am convinced that it will be very unjust to the retired lieutenants should it be presented to Congress and become law.

In section 10 it is provided, after stating the pay of officers of the active list, that "there shall be allowed to each commissioned officer, below the grade of Commander, ten percentum of his current yearly pay, for each term of five years."

Now it is clear that this refers only to officers of the active list, for under the present law governing the pay of retired officers of the Navy, if I understand it correctly, longevity does not count after retirement, hence I think (should the proposed bill become law) that the Treasury officials would, in fixing the pay of a retired officer, reckon the longevity up to the date of retirement, and then it would cease. I do not understand that the proposed bill would repeat this, but if it should and the retired lieutenants share alike in the benefit of longevity with those of the active list, even then the retired pay of officers of that rank would not be as good as at present, for the longevity increase could not, according to section 10, exceed forty percentum of the current yearly pay, but, as I have before written, I do not think the Treasury officials would allow longevity after retirement under the present law. It is also noticed that the proposed bill would fix the current yearly pay of a Lieut. Commander at \$1,900—a difference of \$700—while under the present law it is \$400. This is extremely unjust, and it is difficult to understand the reason for such difference. Looking at the proposed bill, even in its most favorable aspect, it is easy to see that it is not by any means so favorable to retired lieutenants as the present law; and if it is presented to Congress in its present shape, I am confident it will, with good reason, meet with opposition.

I am, dear sir, yours, etc.,

HENRY C. KEENE,
Lieut., U. S. Navy (retired).

"THE OLD ARMY."

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

ON the fly-leaf of a copy of "Science of War and Fortification," O'Connor, used as a text book at West Point many years ago, and bearing the name of "W. A. Thornton, West Point, 1824," is a list of the first section, as follows: 1825—Bache, Brown, Bowman, Ryan, M'Martin, Donelson, Smith, Suede, Huger, Taylor, Harrison, Brystone, Hopkins, Thornton, Mackay, Harris, Irwin, Anderson. The "Army Register, 1779-1879," Hamerley, gives a full record of all of these men except Brystone, of whom I can find no trace. Can any reader give any further information of him?

I can add a little to the record of Harrison, above, whose name was changed after graduation to Matthew J. Williams. After resigning in 1837, he resided in Georgia, finally settling at Marietta, where he was employed as a teacher in a military school. He did not serve during the late war. When the war closed, he was in such reduced circumstances that he was glad to accept a place as laborer on the rolls of the officer charged with the work on the National Cemetery at Marietta, at \$15 per month and rations. He died about 1870.

Our correspondent must refer to Abbot H. Brisbane, as he mentions all of the class except him and one of the Smiths (there being two, Horace and Charles F.). There was no "Brystone" in the class. Brisbane resigned in 1828, was restored to the Service during the Florida war, and was disbanded in 1838. He was afterwards a civil engineer and a planter near Charleston, S. C.

"THE MOST UNKINDEST CUT OF ALL."

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THE statement in an editorial paragraph on the first page of your issue of March 3, that section 33 of the Steele bill "does not affect officers who have been continuously in service since 1861" is likely to mislead. Section 33 does affect officers who have been continuously in service since 1861: those who entered the Service in the last nine days of July, and in August, September, October, November and December of that year. I cannot but find your issue of Jan. 14, but the copy of the bill before me is a H. of R. copy—direct from the fountain head. It ought to be correct. [Our correspondent is correct as he will see by referring to our article of last week on this subject.—EDITOR.]

Does it not seem a little hard on officers who have faithfully served—during and since the war—over a quarter of a century, and who stood forth in the times that tried men's souls to make them the victims of such a "cut" in their old age?

It would be a bitter injustice to cut down the retired pay of any officer who entered the Service during the war, served faithfully, to its close and continuously since.

Mr. Steele has been looked upon by the Army as one of its best friends, and we are somewhat surprised, and not a little saddened, that the "most unkindest cut of all" should come from him.

PELTON.

MARCH 6, 1888.

PROMOTE THE VETERAN CAPTAINS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

RECENT favorable action in the Senate on the bill to promote to majors after twenty years' service the assistant surgeons who were appointed in 1867 as lieutenants calls attention to the status of numerous infantry captains in the Army who have served their country faithfully for more than a quarter of a century, including the period of the war. Among these are a number who were captains years before the medical officers referred to had entered the Service. Justice demands recognition of these war veterans' services. Apply the same relief to them as to the assistant surgeons. Promotion to the grade of major after twenty or more years' service would be hailed with delight; many would, in fact, be glad to receive such advancement after twenty-five years' service, and the writer knows some who would even

welcome the promotion after thirty years' service. To illustrate the present condition of affairs, take the case of the 84th captain of infantry on this year's Army Register. He entered the Army as an officer of volunteers in 1861, served with credit throughout the war, being a field officer at its close, and has served with but little intermission ever since, been a captain fifteen years, and yet has no prospect of getting his majority till 1901—forty years!

THE REVENUE MARINE AND NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

IN your issue of March 3 Mr. Cantwell speaks "as one having authority," but makes some statements and allusions that are, to say the least, misleading. It has been proposed that those who finally graduate from the Naval Academy, and who would otherwise be honorably mustered out, be given commissions as 3d lieutenants in the Revenue Service. Concerning these gentlemen, he says they "have been adjudged unfit to become officers of the Navy." This statement shows decidedly "more precipitancy than information," for it is well known that they cannot finally graduate from the Naval Academy until the Academic Board has pronounced them successful in all their examinations, and therefore fit to become officers of the Navy. They are deprived of their commissions through no fault of their own, but because the number who succeed in graduating is greater than the number of vacancies that exists for them.

The Gunther bill is acknowledged on all sides to be good, as far as it goes. Let us secure its benefits if we can. It does not, however, "free the roster of those members of the Service who have grown old and incapable of performing active duty;" neither is the "way cleared for the advancement and promotion of those whose hair has grown gray in the arduous duty of the Service."

There is no danger that the transfer of the Revenue Marine would disturb the equilibrium of the Navy. It could very naturally and easily become a corps of the Navy; and as officers are not usually transferred from one corps to another, there need be no occasion for any friction on account of conflicting rank and privileges.

Referring to the fear of an "awful disaster," which has been attributed to me, there is no occasion for any such fear on my part: if I leave the Service, it will still contain Mr. Cantwell.

PATIENCE.

MONUMENTAL LEGISLATION.

THE House Committee on the Library has authorized favorable reports on the following bills: For a monument at Frederick, Md., over the grave of Francis Scott Key, the author of "The Star Spangled Banner;" for a monument to William Henry Harrison; for a monument at Point Pleasant, West Va., commemorative of soldiers who fell in the battle at that place on Oct. 10, 1774; for a monument to Mary, the mother of Washington, at Fredericksburg, Va.; to aid the Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge and to secure the Washington headquarters, mansion and grounds occupied by the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War; for a monument at Stony Point, N. Y.; for a monument to Maj.-Gen. Nathaniel Greene on the battlefield of Guilford Court-house, N. C.; to preserve the grave of Gen. Daniel Morgan, and to erect a equestrian statue over the same; for the erection of an equestrian statue to Gen. Zachary Taylor.

THE ARMY.

ARMY CONFIRMATIONS.

MARCH 12, 1888.

Rev. John F. Dolphin, of Minnesota, to be Chaplain, vice McAdams.

MARCH 14, 1888.

2d Lieut. Wm. L. Buck to be 1st Lieutenant.
2d Lieut. Alex. L. Dade, 13th Inf., to be 2d Lieut. 10th Cav.
Fourth Cavalry—2d Lieut. Harry C. Benson to be 1st Lieut.
Fifteenth Infantry—1st Lieut. Edward C. Chapin to be Capt.
2d Lieut. Will T. May to be 1st Lieut.
Tenth Infantry—1st Lieut. Daniel F. Stiles to be Capt.
2d Lieut. Victor E. Stottler to be 1st Lieut.
Twenty-first Infantry—1st Lieut. Daniel Cornman to be Capt.
2d Lieut. Edward H. Brooke to be 1st Lieut.

CIR. 2, H. Q. A., A. G. O., March 7, 1888.

The following decisions, rulings, etc., have been made during the month of February, 1888, and are published to the Army for the information of all concerned:

EXTRA DUTY PAY.

It is not sufficient that men should work for a period of more than ten days to entitle them to extra duty pay. They must be detailed to do such work, and it must be proper work to entitle them to such pay. An order for a body of men to march over certain roads and to repair them, or to repair a telegraph line along such roads, cannot be considered as detailing the individual members of that body of troops on extra duty. In order that soldiers shall be entitled to extra duty pay they must be by name detailed on extra duty, as individuals. (Decision Sec. War, indorsement Feb. 6, 1888.)

SUBSISTENCE OF GENERAL SERVICE MESSENGERS IN HOSPITAL.

A reasonable charge, not exceeding twenty-five cents per day, will be made for the subsistence of a General Service messenger who is admitted to a post hospital, to be paid by the man to the hospital fund, as provided in par. 2311 of the Regulations. (Decision Sec. War, letter Feb. 11, 1888.)

SALE OF SUBSISTENCE STORES TO A POST "CANTEN."

Any articles which may properly be sold to enlisted men by the acting commissary of subsistence, at any post, may, with equal propriety, be sold, under such regulations as to details as the Commissary General may prescribe, to the manager of a canteen carried on exclusively for the benefit of persons entitled to purchase from the Subsistence Department, provided no profit is derived by the canteen or any individual connected therewith from such transaction. (Decision Sec. War, indorsement Feb. 13, 1888.)

DEPORTERS FROM THE NAVY OR MARINE CORPS.

Whenever a man is reported to the Adjutant General of the Army, under the provisions of par. 224 of the Regulations, as a surrendered deserter from the Navy or Marine Corps, it should be clearly stated whether or not the man is under charges at date of such report, and if he is, no further action should be taken on such charges until instructions shall have been received from this office. (General decision, letter Feb. 23, 1888.)

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan:
R. C. DAUM, Adjutant-General.

TARGET FIRING FOR 1887.

G. O. 79, H. Q. A., Dec. 31, 1887.

I. The accompanying tables, exhibiting the results of the rifle and carbine firing of the Army for the target year 1887, and the comparative proficiency attained by different organizations, are published for the information of the Army.
II. Co. F, 21st Inf., having the highest "General Figure of Merit" for the year, is awarded the Nevada Trophy, and the commanding officer Co. D, 3d Inf., in whose possession the trophy now is, will send it by express to the Commanding General Department of the Platte, who, upon its receipt, will order the commanding officer of the winning company to repair to his headquarters to receive the trophy and hold it until the result of the next year's firing is announced.

Order of Merit.	General Figure of Merit.									
	Figure of Merit.	Hits.	Shots.	Figure of Merit.	Hits.	Shots.	Figure of Merit.	Hits.	Shots.	Figure of Merit.
Skirmish Firing.	322	7,355	29,111	322	7,355	29,111	322	7,355	29,111	322
Individual Classification.	73.38	104.81	20,000	73.38	104.81	20,000	73.38	104.81	20,000	73.38
Marksmen.	132	2,306	9,404	132	2,306	9,404	132	2,306	9,404	132
Sharpshooters.	378	1,448	5,700	378	1,448	5,700	378	1,448	5,700	378
Average per cent. of four best scores at—	1,000 yds.	70.9	70.9	1,000 yds.	70.9	70.9	1,000 yds.	70.9	70.9	70.9
800 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9	800 yards.	70.9	70.9	800 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9
600 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9	600 yards.	70.9	70.9	600 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9
500 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9	500 yards.	70.9	70.9	500 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9
300 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9	300 yards.	70.9	70.9	300 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9
200 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9	200 yards.	70.9	70.9	200 yards.	70.9	70.9	70.9
Per cent. of this number advanced to the longer ranges.	1,000 yds.	7.5	10.1	800 yards.	6.5	10.9	600 yards.	7.2	77.8	77.8
500 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8	500 yards.	64.5	77.8	500 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8
300 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8	300 yards.	64.5	77.8	300 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8
200 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8	200 yards.	64.5	77.8	200 yards.	64.5	77.8	77.8
Number firing at 200 yards.	319	2,172	8,770	319	2,172	8,770	319	2,172	8,770	319
Department and Division.	Eng. Bat.	2,172	8,770	Eng. Bat.	2,172	8,770	Eng. Bat.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	East.	2,172	8,770	East.	2,172	8,770	East.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Dakota.	2,172	8,770	Dakota.	2,172	8,770	Dakota.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Platte.	2,172	8,770	Platte.	2,172	8,770	Platte.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Missouri.	2,172	8,770	Missouri.	2,172	8,770	Missouri.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	California.	2,172	8,770	California.	2,172	8,770	California.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Arizona.	2,172	8,770	Arizona.	2,172	8,770	Arizona.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Atlantic.	2,172	8,770	Atlantic.	2,172	8,770	Atlantic.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Albany.	2,172	8,770	Albany.	2,172	8,770	Albany.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Pacific.	2,172	8,770	Pacific.	2,172	8,770	Pacific.	2,172	8,770	2,172
	Army.	2,172	8,770	Army.	2,172	8,770	Army.	2,172	8,770	2,172

* 1 Sharpshooter at Headquarters of the Army included.

Classification and Figure of Merit of Regiments.

Regiments.	Individual Classification.			Skirmish Firing.			General Figure of Merit.	Order.
	Sharpshooters.	Marksmen.	Percent of Firing.	Shots.	Hits.	Figure of Merit.		
Eng. Bat.	7	132	1	73.38	38	5,000	309	35.00 40
Cavalry.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
1st.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
2d.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
3d.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
4th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
5th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
6th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
7th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
8th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
9th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
10th.	21	438	1	98.82	20	6,340	2,443	37.32 18
Artillery.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
1st.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
2d.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
3d.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
4th.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
5th.	46	230	1	105.20	11	4,100	1,341	39.71 28
Infantry.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
1st.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
2d.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
3d.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
4th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
5th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
6th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
7th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
8th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
9th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
10th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
11th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
12th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
13th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
14th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
15th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
16th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
17th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
18th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
19th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
20th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
21st.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
22nd.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
23rd.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
24th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
25th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
26th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
27th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20
28th.	11	194	1	95.67	35	4,290	1,371	39.03 20

Figure of Merit of the Troops, Batteries, and Companies of the U. S. Army for 1887.

Order in Army	General Figure of Merit	Order in Army	General Figure of Merit
Engineers.		1st Cav.	
A.....31.30	411	A.....60.13	170
B.....35.73	408	B.....68.94	175
C.....37.19	408	C.....78.59	115
D.....38.53	408	D.....78.59	115
E.....39.87	408	E.....78.59	115
F.....41.21	408	F.....78.59	115
G.....42.55	408	G.....78.59	115
H.....43.89	408	H.....78.59	115
I.....45.23	408	I.....78.59	115
J.....46.57	408	J.....78.59	115
K.....47.91	408	K.....78.59	115
L.....49.25	408	L.....78.59	115
M.....50.59	408	M.....78.59	115
N.....51.93	408	N.....78.59	115
O.....53.27	408	O.....78.59	115
P.....54.61	408	P.....78.59	115
Q.....55.95	408	Q.....78.59	115
R.....57.29	408	R.....78.59	115
S.....58.63	408	S.....78.59	115
T.....59.97	408	T.....78.59	115
U.....61.31	408	U.....78.59	115
V.....62.65	408	V.....78.59	115
W.....63.99	408	W.....78.59	115
X.....65.33	408	X.....78.59	115
Y.....66.67	408	Y.....78.59	115
Z.....68.01	408	Z.....78.59	115
AA.....69.35	408	AA.....78.59	115
AB.....70.69	408	AB.....78.59	115
AC.....72.03	408	AC.....78.59	115
AD.....73.37	408	AD.....78.59	115
AE.....74.71	408	AE.....78.59	115
AF.....76.05	408	AF.....78.59	115
AG.....77.39	408	AG.....78.59	115
AH.....78.73	408	AH.....78.59	115
AI.....80.07	408	AI.....78.59	115
AJ.....81.41	408	AJ.....78.59	115
AK.....82.75	408	AK.....78.59	115
AL.....84.09	408	AL.....78.59	115
AM.....85.43	408	AM.....78.59	115
AN.....86.77	408	AN.....78.59	115
AO.....88.11	408	AO.....78.59	115
AP.....89.45	408	AP.....78.59	115
AQ.....90.79	408	AQ.....78.59	115
AR.....92.13	408	AR.....78.59	115
AS.....93.47	408	AS.....78.59	115
AT.....94.81	408	AT.....78.59	115
AU.....96.15	408	AU.....78.59	115
AV.....97.49	408	AV.....78.59	115
AW.....98.83	408	AW.....78.59	115
AX.....100.17	408	AX.....78.59	115
AY.....101.51	408	AY.....78.59	115
AZ.....102.85	408	AZ.....78.59	115
BA.....104.19	408	BA.....78.59	115
BB.....105.53	408	BB.....78.59	115
BC.....106.87	408	BC.....78.59	115
BD.....108.21	408	BD.....78.59	115
BE.....109.55	408	BE.....78.59	115
BF.....110.89	408	BF.....78.59	115
BG.....112.23	408	BG.....78.59	115
BH.....113.57	408	BH.....78.59	115
BI.....114.91	408	BI.....78.59	115
BJ.....116.25	408	BJ.....78.59	115
BK.....117.59	408	BK.....78.59	115
BL.....118.93	408	BL.....78.59	115
BM.....120.27	408	BM.....78.59	115
BN.....121.61	408	BN.....78.59	115
BO.....122.95	408	BO.....78.59	115
BP.....124.29	408	BP.....78.59	115
BQ.....125.63	408	BQ.....78.59	115
BR.....126.97	408	BR.....78.59	115
BS.....128.31	408	BS.....78.59	115
BT.....129.65	408	BT.....78.59	115
BU.....130.99	408	BU.....78.59	115
BV.....132.33	408	BV.....78.59	115
BW.....133.67	408	BW.....78.59	115
BX.....135.01	408	BX.....78.59	115
BY.....136.35	408	BY.....78.59	115
BZ.....137.69	408	BZ.....78.59	115
CA.....139.03	408	CA.....78.59	115
CB.....140.37	408	CB.....78.59	115
CC.....141.71	408	CC.....78.59	115
CD.....143.05	408	CD.....78.59	115
CE.....144.39	408	CE.....78.59	115
CF.....145.73	408	CF.....78.59	115
CG.....147.07	408	CG.....78.59	115
CH.....148.41	408	CH.....78.59	115
CI.....149.75	408	CI.....78.59	115
CJ.....151.09	408	CJ.....78.59	115
CK.....152.43	408	CK.....78.59	115
CL.....153.77	408	CL.....78.59	115
CM.....155.11	408	CM.....78.59	115
CN.....156.45	408	CN.....78.59	115
CO.....157.79	408	CO.....78.59	115
CP.....159.13	408	CP.....78.59	115
CQ.....160.47	408	CQ.....78.59	115
CR.....161.81	408	CR.....78.59	115
CS.....163.15	408	CS.....78.59	115
CT.....164.49	408	CT.....78.59	115
CU.....165.83	408	CU.....78.59	115
CV.....167.17	408	CV.....78.59	115
CW.....168.51	408	CW.....78.59	115
CX.....169.85	408	CX.....78.59	115
CY.....171.19	408	CY.....78.59	115
CZ.....172.53	408	CZ.....78.59	115
DA.....173.87	408	DA.....78.59	115
DB.....175.21	408	DB.....78.59	115
DC.....176.55	408	DC.....78.59	115
DD.....177.89	408	DD.....78.59	115
DE.....179.23	408	DE.....78.59	115
DF.....180.57	408	DF.....78.59	115
DG.....181.91	408	DG.....78.59	115
DH.....183.25	408	DH.....78.59	115
DI.....184.59	408	DI.....78.59	115
DJ.....185.93	408	DJ.....78.59	115
DK.....187.27	408	DK.....78.59	115
DL.....188.61	408	DL.....78.59	115
DM.....190.00	408	DM.....78.59	115
DN.....191.34	408	DN.....78.59	115
DO.....192.68	408	DO.....78.59	115
DP.....194.02	408	DP.....78.59	115
DQ.....195.36	408	DQ.....78.59	115
DR.....196.70	408	DR.....78.59	115
DS.....198.04	408	DS.....78.59	115
DT.....199.38	408	DT.....78.59	115
DU.....200.72	408	DU.....78.59	115
DV.....202.06	408	DV.....78.59	115
DW.....203.40	408	DW.....78.59	115
DX.....204.74	408	DX.....78.59	115
DY.....206.08	408	DY.....78.59	115
DZ.....207.42	408	DZ.....78.59	115
EA.....208.76	408	EA.....78.59	115
EB.....210.10	408	EB.....78.59	115
EC.....211.44	408	EC.....78.59	115
ED.....212.78	408	ED.....78.59	115
EE.....214.12	408	EE.....78.59	115
EF.....215.46	408	EF.....78.59	115
EG.....216.80	408	EG.....78.59	115
EH.....218.14	408	EH.....78.59	115
EI.....219.48	408	EI.....78.59	115
EJ.....220.82	408	EJ.....78.59	115
EK.....222.16	408	EK.....78.59	115
EL.....223.50	408	EL.....78.59	115
EM.....224.84	408	EM.....78.59	115
EN.....226.18	408	EN.....78.59	115
EO.....227.52	408	EO.....78.59	115
EP.....228.86	408	EP.....78.59	115
EQ.....230.20	408	EQ.....78.59	115
ER.....231.54	408	ER.....78.59	115
ES.....232.88	408	ES.....78.59	115
ET.....234.22	408	ET.....78.59	115
EU.....235.56	408	EU.....78.59	115
EV.....236.90	408	EV.....78.59	115
EW.....238.24	408	EW.....78.59	115
EX.....239.58	408	EX.....78.59	115
EY.....240.92	408	EY.....78.59	115
EZ.....242.26	408	EZ.....78.59	115
FA.....243.60	408	FA.....78.59	115
FB.....244.94	408	FB.....78.59	115
FC.....246.28	408	FC.....78.59	115
FD.....247.62	408	FD.....78.59	115
FE.....248.96	408	FE.....78.59	115
FF.....250.30	408	FF.....78.59	115
FG.....251.64	408	FG.....78.59	115
FH.....252.98	408	FH.....78.59	115
FI.....254.32	408	FI.....78.59	115
FJ.....255.66	408	FJ.....78.59	115
FK.....257.00	408	FK.....78.59	115
FL.....258.34	408	FL.....78.59	115
FM.....259.68	408	FM.....78.59	115
FN.....261.02	408	FN.....78.59	115
FO.....262.36	408	FO.....78.59	115
FP.....263.70	408	FP.....78.59	115
FQ.....265.04	408	FQ.....78.59	115
FR.....266.38	408	FR.....78.59	115
FS.....267.72	408	FS.....78.59	115
FT.....269.06	408	FT.....78.59	115
FU.....270.40	408	FU.....78.59	115
FV.....271.74	408	FV.....78.59	115
FW.....273.08	408	FW.....78.59	115
FX.....274.42	408	FX.....78.59	115
FY.....275.76	408	FY.....78.59	115
FZ.....277.10	408	FZ.....78.59	115
GA.....278.44	408	GA.....78.59	115
GB.....279.78	408	GB.....78.59	115
GC.....281.12	408	GC.....78.59	115
GD.....282.46	408	GD.....78.59	115
GE.....283.80	408	GE.....78.59	115
GF.....285.14	408	GF.....78.59	115
GG.....286.48	408	GG.....78.59	115
GH.....287.82	408	GH.....78.59	115
GI.....289.16	408	GI.....78.59	115
GJ.....290.50	408	GJ.....78.59	115
GK.....291.84	408	GK.....78.59	115
GL.....293.18	408	GL.....78.59	115
GM.....294.52	408	GM.....78.59	115
GN.....295.86	408	GN.....78.59	115
GO.....297.20	408	GO.....78.59	115
GP.....298.54	408	GP.....78.59	115
GQ.....299.88	408	GQ.....78.59	115
GR.....301.22	408	GR.....78.59	115
GS.....302.56	408	GS.....78.59	115
GT.....303.90	408	GT.....78.59	115
GU.....305.24	408	GU.....78.59	115
GV.....306.58	408	GV.....78.59	115
GW.....307.92	408	GW.....78.59	115
GX.....309.26	408	GX.....78.59	115
GY.....310.60	408	GY.....78.59	115
GZ.....311.94	408	GZ.....78.59	115
HA.....313.28	408	HA.....78.59	115
HB.....314.62	408	HB.....78.59	115
HC.....315.96	408	HC.....78.59	115
HD.....317.30	408	HD.....78.59	115
HE.....318.64	408	HE.....78.59	115
HF.....319.98	408	HF.....78.59	115
HG.....321.32	408	HG.....78.59	115
HH.....322.66	408	HH.....78.59	115
HI.....324.00	408	HI.....78.59	115
HJ.....325.34	408	HJ.....78.59	115
HK.....326.68	408	HK.....78.59	115
HL.....328.02	408	HL.....78.59	115
HM.....329.36	408	HM.....78.59	115
HN.....330.70	408	HN.....78.59	115
HO.....332.04	408	HO.....78.59	115
HP.....333.38	408	HP.....78.59	115
HQ.....334.72	408	HQ.....78.59	115
HR.....336.06	408	HR.....78.59	115
HS.....337.40	408	HS.....78.59	115
HT.....338.74	408	HT.....78.59	115
HU.....340.08	408	HU.....78.59	115
HV.....341.42	408	HV.....78.59	115
HW.....342.76	408	HW.....78.59	115
HX.....344.10	408	HX.....78.59	115
HY.....345.44	408	HY.....78.59	115
HZ.....346.78	408	HZ.....78.59	115
IA.....348.12	408	IA.....78.59	115
IB.....349.46	408	IB.....78.59	115
IC.....350.80	408	IC.....78.59	115
ID.....352.14	408	ID.....78.59	115
IE.....353.48	408	IE.....78.59	115
IF.....354.82	408	IF.....78.59	115
IG.....356.16	408	IG.....78.59	115
IH.....357.50	408	IH.....78.59	115
II.....358.84	408	II.....78.59	115
IJ.....360.18	408	IJ.....78.59	115
IK.....361.52	408	IK.....78.59	115
IL.....362.86	408	IL.....78.59	115
IM.....364.20	408	IM.....78.59	115
IN.....365.54	408	IN.....78.59	115
IO.....366.88	408	IO.....78.59	115
IP.....368.22	408	IP.....78.59	115
IQ.....369.56	408	IQ.....78.59	115
IR.....370.90	408	IR.....78.59	115
IS.....372.24	408	IS.....78.59	115
IT.....373.58	408	IT.....78.59	115
IU.....374.92	408	IU.....78.59	115
IV.....376.26	408	IV.....78.59	115
IV.....377.60	408	IV.....78.59	115
IV.....378.94	408	IV.....78.59	115
IV.....380.28	408	IV.....78.59	115
IV.....381.62	408	IV.....78.59	11

7th Infantry, Colonel Henry C. Merriam.

Hdqrs., B. D. E. and F. Ft. Laramie, Wyo.; A and H, Camp Pilot Butte, Wyo.; G and I, Ft. Washakie, Wyo.; C and K, Ft. McKinney, Wyo.

The leave for seven days granted 2d Lieut. Abraham P. Buffington, Fort Washakie, is extended twenty-three days (S. O. 17, March 3, D. Platte.)

8th Infantry, Colonel August V. Kautz.

Hdqrs., A, B, E, F, G, and H, Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; C, D, I, and K, Ft. Robinson, Neb.

Leave for one month is granted Capt. Gordon Winslow, Fort Robinson (S. O. 16, March 1, D. Platte.) Capt. Gordon Winslow will report in person to Brig.-Gen. Wesley Merritt, president of the Army Retiring Board at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for examination by the Board (S. O., March 13, H. Q. A.)

12th Infantry, Colonel Edwin F. Townsend.

Hdqrs., E, G, H, and I, Ft. Yates, D. T.; A, B, C, and D, Ft. Sully, D. T.; K, Ft. Bennett, D. T.; F, Ft. A. Lincoln, D. T.

S. O. 12 is modified to direct Lieut.-Col. W. F. Drum, A. I. G., to change his route so as to go to Fort Apache from San Carlos, instead of from Holbrook (S. O. 25, March 1, D. Ariz.)

The leave for seven days granted 2d Lieut. Daniel F. Anglum is extended twenty-three days (S. O. 20, March 10, D. Dak.)

11th Infantry, Colonel Richard I. Dodge.

Hdqrs., A, D, G, H, and I, Madison Bks., N. Y.; E and K, Ft. Niagara, N. Y.; B, Fort Wood, N. Y. H.; C, Ft. Ontario, N. Y.; F, Plattsburgh Bks., N. Y.

13th Infantry, Colonel Robert S. La Motte.

Hdqrs., D, F, G, H, and I, Ft. Wingate, N. M.; K, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; A and B, Ft. Bayard, N. M.; C and E, Ft. Stanton, N. M.

1st Lieut. John H. H. Peshine, having been found incapacitated for active service, is granted leave until further orders on account of disability (S. O., March 14, H. Q. A.)

14th Infantry, Colonel Thomas M. Anderson.

Hdqrs., B, C, D, E, F, G, and H, Vancouver Bks., Wash. T.; A, Ft. Townsend, Wash. T.; K, Ft. Klamath, Ore.; I, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

The extension of leave on account of sickness granted Capt. Charles B. Western is still further extended seven days on account of sickness (S. O., March 13, H. Q. A.)

15th Infantry, Colonel Robert E. A. Crofton.

Hdqrs., E, F, G, and H, Ft. Buford, D. T.; A, C, D, and K, Ft. Randall, D. T.; B and I, Ft. Pembina, D. T.

2d Lieut. Blanton C. Welsh will proceed from Fort Buford, D. T., to Camp Poplar River, M. T., for temporary Court-martial duty (S. O. 20, March 10, D. Dak.)

In a regimental order, Col. R. E. A. Crofton announces the death of Capt. Cyrus M. De Lany, recounts his services, and says: "He was thrice wounded in action; severely in the assault on Vicksburg, Miss., and slightly in the Atlanta and Carolina campaigns. He was an officer of marked ability and great energy. Capt. De Lany died Feb. 27, of heart disease, at Downey, Cal., where he had sought in change of climate, improvement in health."

18th Infantry, Colonel John E. Yard.

Hdqrs., B and D, Ft. Hays, Kas.; F, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; C and I, Ft. Gibson, L. T.; G, H, and K, Ft. Riley, Kas.; A and E, Denver, Colo.

19th Infantry, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

Hdqrs., San Antonio, Tex.; A, B, C, F, G, H, and K, Ft. Clark, Tex.; D, Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; E, Ft. Ringgold, Tex.; I, Ft. Brown, Tex.

1st Lieut. W. P. Evans, Co. M., will proceed to Beaumont, Tex., on public service, and will return to his post at the station of San Antonio, Tex. (S. O. 27, March 9, D. Tex.)

21st Infantry, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

Hdqrs., A, C, E, and G, Ft. Sidney, Neb.; D and H, Ft. Bridger, Wyo.; B, F, I, and K, Ft. Duchesne, Utah (Post-office address via Ouray, Utah).

The leave granted 2d Lieut. Henry D. Styer is extended one month (S. O., March 9, H. Q. A.)

The extension of leave on surgeon's certificate granted Lieut.-Col. John S. Poland is further extended six months on surgeon's certificate (S. O., March 13, H. Q. A.)

22nd Infantry, Colonel Peter F. Swaine.

Hdqrs., A, B, D, G, H, and K, Ft. Lewis, Colo.; C, F, and I, Ft. Lyon, Colo.; E, Ft. Marston, N. M.

A neat roster of commissioned officers of the gallant 22d reaches us this week through the courtesy of Adj. Kell.

23rd Infantry, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Hdqrs., F, G, H, and I, Ft. Wayne, Mich.; A and B, Ft. Brady, Mich.; C and D, Ft. Porter, N. Y.; E and K, Ft. Mackinac, Mich.

2d Lieut. John A. Dapray, A. D. C., will proceed to Nogales, Forts Huachuca and Grant and San Carlos, A. T., and carry out verbal instructions of the Dept. Commander (S. O. 25, March 1, D. Ariz.)

Forty recruits to be prepared at Columbus Barracks will be forwarded for assignment to the 23d Inf. (S. O., March 10, H. Q. A.)

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 10, 1888.

RETIREMENT.

Major Israel O. Dewey, paymaster, March 9, 1888 (act June 30, 1882).

Captain George M. Downey, 21st Infantry, March 6, 1888 (section 1251, Revised Statutes).

Captain Dwight H. Kelton, 10th Infantry, March 6, 1888 (section 1251, Revised Statutes).

CASUALTY.

1st Lieutenant David N. McDonald, 4th Cavalry, resigned March 4, 1888.

Courts-martial.

The following courts have been ordered:

At Fort Preble, Me., March 13. Detail: Major Jacob B. Rawles and Capt. Frank G. Smith, 4th Art.; Capt. George E. Bushnell, Asst. Surg.; Capt. Frederick Fuger and 2d Lieut. Walter N. P. Darrow, 4th Art., and 1st Lieut. Peter Leary, 4th Art., J. A. (S. O. 20, March 9, Div. A.)

At Fort Porter, N. Y., March 19. Detail: Capt. Thomas M. K. Smith, 23d Inf., and Wm. B. Davis, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Charles Hay and S. A. Dyer, and 2d Lieut. James K. Thompson, 23d Inf., and 2d Lieut. Clarence R. Edwards, 23d Inf., J. A. (S. O., March 15, Div. A.)

Army Boards.

A Board of Officers will assemble at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., March 6, for the purpose of examining Corporal John M. Sigworth, Bat. L, 1st Art., for appointment to the position of 3d Lieutenant. Detail: Lieut.-Col. William M. Graham, 1st Art.; Majors Henry R. Tilton, Surgeon, and John I. Rodgers, 1st Art.; Capt. William N. Tisdall, 1st Inf., and 1st Lieut. Henry L. Harris, Adjutant, 1st Art. (S. O. 15, March 1, D. Cal.)

A Board of Survey to consist of 1st Lieut. Guy Howard and 2d Lieut. Harry C. Hale, 12th Inf., will assemble at Fort Bennett, D. T., on March 8 to fix the responsibility for the damaged condition of two Springfield rifles, for which Capt. Joseph H. Hurst, 12th Inf., is accountable (S. O. 18, March 2, D. Dak.)

Promotions from N. C. Officers.—The following named 2d lieutenants (promoted from non-commissioned officers) will be discharged as enlisted men as of the date prior to that of acceptance of commission, in each case, and will then proceed to join the respective companies to which they have been assigned:

2d Lieut. Jas. Baylies, 5th Inf. (from sergeant, Co. A, 5th Inf.), Co. E, Fort Keogh, Montana T. 2d Lt. Wm. C. Neary, 3d Inf. (from corporal, Co. E, Bat. of Eng.), Co. G, Fort Shaw, Montana T. 2d Lieut. Jos. C. Beardsley, 8th Inf. (from sergeant, Co. B, 4th Inf.), Co. D, Fort Robinson, Neb. 2d Lieut. George A. Detchemendy, 6th Inf. (from Q. M. Sergt. 3d Inf.), Co. E, Fort Douglas, Utah T. 2d Lieut. Thomas J. Watkins, 11th Inf. (from 1st sergeant Light Battery C, 31 Art.), Co. E, Fort Niagara, N. Y. 2d Lieut. Earl C. Carnahan, 12th Inf. (from corporal, Co. C, 16th Inf.), Co. C, Fort Sully, Dakota T. 2d Lieut. Archibald A. Cabanis, 20th Inf. (from sergeant, Troop B, 4th Cav.), Co. K, Fort Assiniboine, Montana T. 2d Lieut. Thos. M. Moody, 23d Inf. (from sergt. major, 9th Inf.), Co. K, Fort Lewis, Col. 2d Lieut. Chas. E. Teyman, 24th Inf. (from sergeant, Co. K, 1st Inf.), Co. B, Fort Elliott, Texas. 2d Lieut. Thos. H. McGuire, 25th Inf. (from sergeant, Co. B, 18th Inf.), Co. I, Fort Snelling, Minn. (S. O., March 13, H. Q. A.)

Enlisted Men.—The unexecuted portion of the sentence imposed in the case of each of the following named men is remitted, and they will be released from confinement at the Leavenworth Military Prison: Lawrence Dugan, late Co. A, Batt. Eng.; John Thomas, late private Co. K, 19th Inf.; George Stoughton, late private Co. K, 10th Inf.

Private Doug William Fulghum, Batt. C, 2d Art., having enlisted while a minor, without the consent of his parents or guardian, will be discharged. Also private Wm. Warner, Troop D, 9th Cav., and private Frank Hammond, Troop E, 7th Cav.

Deserters' Descriptive List.—Descriptions of Military prisoners lately released from Alcatraz Island are published in Memo. No. 3, for the information of the recruiting officers in the Division of the Pacific, so as to prevent their re-enlistment.

Trial of a new Wagon.—One Dougherty spring wagon and one escort wagon will be sent to Fort Yates, D. T., and one escort wagon to Fort Custer, M. T., each provided with the "National Tubular Self-oiling axle"—the results, in due time, to be reported.

Enlistment Papers.—As to the disposition to be made of the second enlistment paper in cases of enlistments or re-enlistments, other than regimental re-enlistments, it should be transmitted to the proper regimental commander, and a descriptive list be furnished to the commanding officer of the company to which the man may be assigned." (Letter A. G. O., Feb. 15, 1888.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS.**Dept. of the Platte—Brig. Gen. George Crook.**

The Board on Field Instruction in the Department of the Platte has made an instructive report and has recommended that the troops of the department be assembled in camp as follows: The garrisons of Forts Omaha, Niobrara, Robinson, Sidney, Laramie, and Russell at some point on or near the Union Pacific; those of Forts Douglas, Bridger, DuChesne in Strawberry Valley, Utah; those of Forts McKinney and Washakie at some point near the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley road and that the garrison of Camp Pilot Butte be exempt from this meeting, not being available for duty of this character. The board also recommends that each camp shall tent during a period of 30 days, exclusive of the time required in marching to and from the same. If the concentration recommended be not practicable the board recommends that the 30 days in field instructions consist in marching to and from such points as the department commander may suggest. It is also recommended that no officer be left in garrison unless excused by a surgeon on certificate of disability or by authority of the department commander, that the number of men to be left in garrison be determined by the department commander also, and further that all garrison prisoners accompany their respective commands.

Dept. of Missouri—Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt.

The two companies of infantry now stationed at Highwood have had their target practice season announced in orders from Hdqrs. Dept. of the Missouri. The order indicates the months of June and July as the period for individual and collective firing on the range. The firing will include company and individual skirmish firing, volley and file firing, practice at disappearing and moving targets, standing, kneeling, and lying down at all ranges from 100 to 1,000 yards. Officers are required to shoot at the same time and with the Service rifle and ammunition furnished for the enlisted men. Orders prescribe that the two months immediately preceding the practice season shall be devoted to preliminary and gallery practice indoors, using cartridges loaded with about five grains of powder, and a bullet weighing only 140 grains. The soldiers are required to practice in every possible position and at all elevations of the rear sight; likewise to be instructed in measuring distances by pacing and the accurate determination of distances by sight. The annual

allowance of ammunition for target practice for each officer and enlisted man is \$3.75; the value of each cartridge is 2½ cents, and of each cartridge reloaded .93 of a cent for rifle ammunition; thus every rifleman will be required to fire about 300 rounds during the practice season.

DISCONTINUING RECRUITING RENDEZVOUS.

The recruiting rendezvous at Richmond, Va., will be discontinued March 31 and 1st Lieut. George A. Thurston, recruiting officer, will transfer the recruiting party, records and public property, to David's Island, and will then, upon completion of his duties at Richmond, Va., proceed to join his battery at Washington Bks. (S. O. 44, March 7, R. S.)

The recruiting rendezvous at Charleston, S. C., will be discontinued March 31 and 1st Lieut. James A. Hutton, recruiting officer, will transfer the recruiting party, etc., to David's Island. Lieut. Hutton, upon completion of his duties at Charleston, S. C., will proceed to David's Island and report for duty (S. O. 41, March 3, R. S.)

The recruiting rendezvous at Atlanta, Ga., will be discontinued March 31, and Capt. Wm. B. Kennedy, recruiting officer, will transfer the recruiting party, etc., to Jefferson Bks. Capt. Kennedy, upon the completion of his duties at Atlanta, Ga., will proceed to Jefferson Bks. and report for duty (S. O. 41, March 3, R. S.)

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT YATES, DAKOTA.

MARCH 8, 1888.

MARCH at Yates has been cold and severe, the mercury ranging far below zero and reaching on the 3d 28 degrees. Lieut. McCarthy, whose recent promotion transferred him from Fort Sully to this post, reached here on the 4th, having been five days coming the 60 miles from Fort Lincoln, all owing to the severe weather.

On the evening of the 2d Col. and Mrs. Townsend gave a delightful progressive euchre party. Dr. Spencer was the winner of the first gentleman's prize and Mrs. Spencer of the first ladies, while Mrs. Abbott and Lieut. Baker carried off the second prizes. The occasion was one of the most enjoyable of the winter. The usual Thursday evening concerts by the 12th Infantry Band are kept up, and form a pleasant event of the week.

On Monday evening the post surgeon, Asst. Surg. W. G. Spencer, U. S. A., gave the first of a course of lectures upon medical subjects. Dr. Spencer is a clear and pleasant speaker and rendered his subject interesting to all. These lectures promise to be both entertaining and instructive.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT WINGATE, N. M.

FEBRUARY 29, 1888.

We have read the very complimentary notice in our last issue of the performance of the "Mikado," at Fort Wingate, N. M., Feb. 14, and believe that a more detailed account of the affair would afford pleasure to the friends of the ladies and gentlemen who took part. Almost the entire "Mikado" was given, with full orchestra. The singing was excellent, the leading parts being taken by Mrs. Forsyth, Mrs. Cecil, Lieut. Buck and Forsyth. The three little maidens presented a lovely stage picture, the effect being heightened by the youth and beauty among the chorus, the fan motions and pretty acting. No more attractive and coquettish rendition of Yum Yum than that of Mrs. Cecil could be imagined, the love scene between her and Nanki-Poo being irresistible. Mrs. Waterbury, as Pitti Sing, displayed graceful acting and good singing despite the disadvantage of having a contralto part not adapted to her clear soprano voice. Mrs. Chance interpreted the part of Poo-Poo with ability. The role of Nanki-Poo gave Lieut. Forsyth an opportunity to display the power and sympathetic quality of his fine tenor voice, which to a professional would be as good as a gold mine. The decided hit of the evening was made by Mrs. Forsyth as Katisha and Lieut. Buck as Ko-Ko. The hearty manner in which Mrs. Forsyth threw herself into her part was very charming, her singing in recitative being especially dramatic and effective.

Lieut. Buck's acting as Ko-Ko was perfect, and, of course, repeatedly brought down the house. Every word of his singing and dialogue could be distinctly understood. Lieut. Sands as the Mikado was by all means the most gorgeous Jap we ever saw. Mr. Oliver Hobbsill as the haughty Pook-Bah sang well and made the part very effective. He has a very pleasant voice, indeed. Lieut. O'Brien as Pook-Tush was also very good, his costume making quite a good-looking man of him.

At the close of the performance a vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Goe, the manager, who had labored untiringly for three weeks getting up the entertainment.

It is no small task to bring about a successful operatic performance, especially with full orchestra accompaniment, and the thanks of the entire garrison are due to the energetic and accomplished director of the orchestra, Mr. P. F. Schoff, leader of the 13th Infantry Band.

MIYA-SAMA.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT MEADE, D. T.

The programme of varied and continual amusements at our post during the winter has been almost without a precedent. An amateur band of colored musicians, selected from the 25th Inf., has furnished music at all the hops, and also, occasionally, when the weather permitted, at guard mount. The winter has been unusually mild. Open air drills in Dakota are something never before known in February. The charming society element, furnished by the four companies of the 25th Infantry and the five troops of the 7th Cavalry, find an open field for their talent as lovers of pleasure, where all are so hospitable and harmonious. The season was opened by a full dress reception, given by Col. and Mrs. Tilford welcoming the new arrivals at the post, among whom were several brides, which was soon followed by a brilliant fancy dress ball, in which all the garrison took part, many sending East for their costumes. Then came a series of elegant dinners, lunches, card parties, etc., etc. Lieut. and Mrs. Buck treating their friends to a spirited game of "keno," Lieut. and Mrs. Russell, a "progressive euchre," Capt. and Mrs. Wallace, Lieut. and Mrs. Garington, Lieut. and Mrs. Gresham, with dinner parties, and many others entertaining in the same way. Col. Bacon occupies, next to the "C. O." quarters, the finest set at the post and well sustains his reputation for hospitality with his weekly dinner parties, "rag suppers" and ready welcome to all transient visitors at the post. Maj. and Mrs. Bell also contributed largely to the pleasure of the garrison in the same way, until the departure of Mrs. Bell, who is visiting East. "The Leap Year," given on St. Valentine's evening, was a most pronounced success, the ladies appearing in toilettes as much like the regulation uniform as possible, with their husbands and sweethearts, belts, sashes, forage caps and general military air, while the officers were waited on by their fair escorts and decorated by the same hands in lace ribbons, wide sashes tied around their waists, large corsages of artificial flowers, fans, etc., and the "adorned air" of the girls of the period assumed with the other feminine be-

longings, was amusing, beyond description. The "bachelors" performance of "Romeo and Juliet," Lieut. Adams, 25th Inf., personating "the fair and sweet Juliet," held its own as a most artistic and laughable farce. It would require a letter all by itself to do justice to all the characters who acquitted themselves with such élan. While the social life has been so active the official regime has been equally on the alert with its daily drills, schools and all that constitutes a well disciplined military post. The various rumors that reach us of an early change of station in the spring, are not greeted with the usual enthusiasm that Army people usually hail a "change," for all seem well pleased to remain at Fort Meade. *ANON.*

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

THE Times of March 8 has these items:
Gen. Stanley and Lieut. Rumbough have gone on a two days' hunt. Paymor, Poole has gone on a pay trip down the Rio Grande river. Lieut. Rumbough gave a very delightful moonlight picnic Thursday in honor of Miss Wadsworth, who is visiting Miss Stanley. Lieut. McFarland, 16th Inf., is now acting in his new quarters at No. 12 Government hill. A very enjoyable hop was given in the post hall last evening. When the fort of Fort Stockton was abandoned, no provision was made for the proper care of the remains of persons buried there. Lieut. Duff, 8th Cav., has been placed in charge of the matter. Much interest is manifested in the appointment of the successor of Dr. Volium when he takes his European tour. As he will be gone six months it becomes a matter of concern to all as to who will be in charge of the medical affairs of the department. Gen. Smith has ordered two troops of cavalry, and two companies of infantry to camp out on the rifle range to enable them to complete their rifle practice. Firing will commence next week. Major Vroom will have immediate command of the camp.

FORT NIAGARA, N. Y.

"MARS" in Youngstown News of March 9 says:
Capt. Myer spent Sunday at Suspension Bridge. Capt. and Mrs. Hoffman returned from Buffalo last week. Messrs. Ed. A. Macklin and Willie Page visited Ransomville last Saturday. Capt. Hoffman has purchased a fine \$175 combination pool and billiard table for his company. Mrs. Dove is visiting her brother, Maj. Egbert, at Columbus Barracks, Ohio. Mrs. Dr. Brown gave a very pleasant party for her children last Thursday evening. All the children of the post were present and enjoyed themselves very much. I clip the following from the Dakota (Pierre) Journal: "Capt. Hurst, commandant of Fort Bennett, is a very genial gentleman to meet, and it is a mystery to the ladies why he persists in remaining a bachelor."

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KAS.

The Kansas City Times says:
The Fort Leavenworth social club will give their second entertainment March 12 and 14. Gen. McCook having kindly permitted them to make use of the officer's hop room, the difficulty of seating the patrons comfortably, which presented itself at their last performance, will be entirely overcome.
The General Court-martial trying Lieut. Sharp, 20th Inf., concluded its business, March 9. Col. Wherry, counsel for the accused, submitted an oral argument which was replied to by the Judge Advocate of the Court, Capt. Murray.
The four years' tour of duty of Lieut. Cheever, 6th Cav., and Townsend, 6th Inf., expires next month. It is probable that Lieut. Hoyt, 18th Inf., and Lieut. Nichols, 23d Inf., will be the officers detailed to take the place of the two officers relieved.
The artillery belt gotten up by Col. Williston does not meet with approval by the artillerymen at the post who have given it a trial. It is claimed that the stitching on the belt prevents it from being properly cleaned and, as the sling cannot be detached, it is impracticable for gunners whose rapid motions around a piece of artillery would in many instances lead to the men being caught by the sling.

FORT MONROE, VA.

An Inquirer correspondent writes March 12:
The training ships *Jamestown*, Comdr. Train; and *Saratoga*, Comdr. Davis, are now anchored in the Roads, and the young officers on board are having a pleasant time exchanging courtesies with their friends at the hotel.
Maj. J. B. Campbell, 4th Art., who has been stationed here for a number of years as instructor, has been ordered to take command of Fort Warren, Boston Harbor. His battery, which has been at the post since 1871, will go with him, exchanging with Battery H of the same regiment, Capt. Story. Maj. Campbell is one of the brightest officers in the artillery service today, and he will be missed in the section room.
Lieut. M. Salto, of the Royal Japanese Navy, is here on a visit. He had letters of introduction to Gen. Tidball, post commander, and was shown all that would interest him about the garrison. He was not deeply impressed with the obsolete guns by which the fort is armed.
Lieut. Herman Kirby, 10th Inf., instructor at West Point, is here on a visit.
Miss Arnold, daughter of Maj. Arnold, commanding the arsenal, and her guest, Miss Roberts, of Philadelphia, have gone to Jamestown Island on a visit to Mrs. Capt. F. S. Brown.

FORT ROBINSON, NEB.

GEN. HATCH, commanding Fort Robinson, has issued most stringent orders against the carrying of firearms at the barracks, and frequent inspections are to be made to see that the order is complied with. The order has always existed, but since the murder of 1st Sergt. Stance the necessity for a more rigid compliance is made manifest.

COURT-MARTIAL CASES.

In the case of a soldier, recently tried at Fort Bliss, Tex., for drunkenness at guard mounting, the reviewing authority, Gen. Stanley, says: After the findings, the court-martial proceeded, under the instructions contained in A. R. 694, and the interpretation of it contained in Circular A. G. O. 1886, to reopen the court and hear read copies of the orders citing previous trials and convictions of accused by garrison courts-martial.
The accused interposed an objection to the copies of all orders of Fort Concho, and to the copy of Orders No. 157, series of 1887, of Fort Bliss, Tex., on the ground that they were erroneously dated, some of them not duly authenticated, and others incongruous.
An examination of the appendices to the record shows that the objections were well founded. The inaccurate carelessness of the officer certifying to the correctness of the orders amounts to criminality, and warrants the accused in claiming that it is a fair legal presumption that documents which are so utterly false in material matters are too false to be used as evidence.
When A. R. 694 (which, if followed, permits a latitude to the introduction of testimony before courts-martial, not permitted to other courts of justice), was published, it was supposed that officers would have a sufficient regard for their certificate as to make an examination of the orders, which they certify as correct, before attaching their signature. The interpretation of the rules of the law of evidence, announced in A. R. 694, being in derogation of the common law rules of evidence, should be strictly construed. The sentence is disapproved. (G. C. M. O. 10, Department Texas, 1888.)

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

N. Atlantic Station—Rear Admiral S. B. Lucie.

Next Mails for the West Indies leave N. Y. March 21 and 22.

ATLANTA, 2d rate, 8 guns, Captain Francis M. Bunce. On a cruise in the West Indies. Will return to Hampton Roads about June 1. The only mails certain to reach the ship will be those directed to Aspinwall, U. S. C. Arrived at Port au Prince, Hayti, Feb. 19, six days from New York. Arrived at St. Thomas, March 13, for coal. After coaling and paying the usual official visits will probably proceed to Santa Cruz.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Colby M. Chester. Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va. Repairs about completed. Preparing for sea. Will probably go up the James River as far as Richmond.

OSSIPPEE, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. W. B. Hoff. Probably sailed from Port Spain, island of Trinidad, on March 12; the next ports visited being Basse Terre, and St. Kitts, where she expects to remain until about March 29.

RICHMOND, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Robt. Boyd. Expects to be at Aspinwall about March 15, and the next port to be visited will be Greytown, about March 21.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. O. F. Heyerman. Arrived at Aspinwall, Feb. 27, where she expects to remain until April 5. All well on board.

S. Atlantic Station—Rear Adm. D. L. Bratne.

Mails should be addressed to the care of the U. S. Consul, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, or care of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, unless otherwise noted.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, (f. s. s. a. s.), Comdr. Charles McGregor. At Montevideo, Feb. 4. Comdr. G. W. Pigman is ordered to command her. Will remain at Montevideo until the arrival of the officers detailed for duty on her. Was Feb. 10 about to sail for the African coast, and the flag is temporarily hoisted on the Tallapoosa.

TALLAPOOSA, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. F. W. Dickens. At Montevideo, Uruguay.

European Station—A. R.—Adm. Jas. A. Greer.

Mails should be addressed to care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. B. H. McCalla. Sailed at once for Tangier, Morocco, and arrived there on March 10.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns, Lieut. Comdr. E. S. Houston in command. Sailed from Montevideo, Jan. 13, for Gibraltar. She will be the flagship of the station. May be expected to arrive about March 10.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, (f. s. e. s.), Comdr. W. M. Folger. At Villefranche, France, Jan. 31, 1888.

Pacific Station—Rear Adm. L. A. Kimberly.

Mails should be addressed to care U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C., unless otherwise noted. Mails for this station leave New York on the 1st, 10th and 20th of each month.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Louis Kempff. Mail matter for the vessel should be sent in care U. S. Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. Left Apr. Jan. 30, for Pago-Pago for coal. Ordered to return to Honolulu, and was expected to arrive the last of February.

ALERT, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. J. D. Graham. Arrived at Callao, Peru, March 6, and will remain until further orders.

DOLPHIN, 3d rate, 1 gun, Comdr. George F. F. Wilde. Arrived at Montevideo, Uruguay, March 4, and sailed from there March 6.

Mail should be addressed care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C.

MONONGAHELA, sails, 12 guns, Store Ship. Commander S. H. Baker. Arrived off Payta, Peru, March 1. All well on board. Ordered to proceed to San Francisco, where she may be expected about 55 days after sailing from Payta.

MOHICAN, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Benjamin F. Day. Address mail to San Francisco, Cal., care of Navy Pay Office. Mail leaves March 27. At Apia, Samoa, Feb. 28. Will remain there for the present.

NIPTIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. D. W. Mullan. Mail should be addressed in care U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C. Arrived at St. Vincent Feb. 15.

PINTA, 4th rate, 4 howitzers, Lieut. Comdr. John S. Newell. At Sitka, Alaska.

THETIS, 4th rate, 3 howitzers, Lieut. Comdr. W. H. Emory. At Mare Island Navy-yard, Cal., fitting for sea.

TRENTON, 2d rate, 10 guns, Capt. N. H. Farquhar. Sailed from St. Vincent Feb. 22, and the next port at which she may be expected to touch is Bahia, Brazil. She will be the flagship of the Pacific Station. Mail should be addressed in care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C.

The last report from the *Trenton* was dated Feb. 22, on which date she sailed from the British Island of St. Vincent, West Indies. It is not expected that the *Trenton* will arrive at Valparaiso before the latter part of April or the 1st of May.

VANDALIA, 2d rate, 8 guns, (f. s. p. s.), Capt. Henry L. Howison. At Honolulu, Feb. 1, to remain for the present. Mail leaves San Francisco March 27. Capt. C. M. Schoonmaker has been ordered to command, and leaves per steamer of March 27, from San Francisco, Cal.

Asiatic Station—Rear Adm. Ralph Chandler.

Mails should be addressed, Yokohama, Japan, unless otherwise noted. Mails for this station leave San Francisco March 24.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, f. s. a. s., Capt. Byron Wilson. Sailed from Kobe, Japan, Jan. 25th for Hong Kong, thence in turn to Manila, Batavia and other ports in Java, Macassar, in the island of Borneo, Celebes, and thence to the Philippine Islands, and back to the station, where she may be expected to arrive about May 1.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. T. F. Jewell. At Kobe, Japan, Feb. 25. Early in March she was

placed at the disposition of Minister Denby for a visit to Formosa and Chinese ports.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. G. T. Davis. En route to the Asiatic Station. Her arrival was looked for about Feb. 10.

MARION, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. N. M. Dyer. Arrived at Honolulu Feb. 13, where she was to remain long enough to receive a quantity of stores. En route to the Asiatic Station.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry Glass. At Yokohama, Japan, Feb. 1.

OMAHA, 2d rate, 12 guns, Captain F. V. McNair. Sailed from Yokohama Jan. 23, and may be expected to arrive at Panama by March 20. Mail should be addressed, care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C., and leaves New York on the 1st, 10th and 20th of the month.

PALOS, 4th rate, 7 howitzers, Lieut. Comdr. J. E. Craig. Chemulpo, Korea, Feb. 1.

Apprentice Training Squadron.

JAMESTOWN, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Charles J. Train. At the Norfolk, Va., Navy-yard for repairs.

MINNESOTA, 19 howitzers, Capt. T. F. Kane. Receiving ship for boys. Foot of W. 27th Street, North River. Entrance from W. 28th Street. P. O. address, Station E, New York.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 8 howitzers, Receiving Ship for boys. Comdr. F. J. Higginson. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 12 howitzers, Comdr. Edwin White. Sailed for a cruise among the West Indies Feb. 17.

Address mail matter: March 13 to March 29, Basterre, St. Kitts. From March 29 to April 5, St. Pierre, Martinique. From April 5 to April 30, St. Thomas, W. I. After latter date, Newport, R. I.

SARATOGA, 12 howitzers, Comdr. Charles H. Davis. At Norfolk, Va. Cruising in Chesapeake Bay. Next summer she will be sent to Coasters' Harbor Island, and will be a stationary practice ship.

On Special Service.

AND AWAITING ASSIGNMENT.

BOSTON, 2d rate, 8 guns, Captain F. M. Ramsay. New York Navy yard.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Lieut. W. S. Cowles. New York Navy-yard.

FORTUNE, tug, Lieutenant O. E. Lasher. Left Norfolk Navy-yard, March 7, with stores, and a draft of 25 men for the New York Navy yard.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 4 guns, Commander H. F. Pickering. Erie, Pa.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 16 guns, Captain Arthur R. Yates. At New York Navy-yard. She will leave New York not later than March 24 for Laguayra, Venezuela, and then will proceed to Aspinwall, U. S. C.

RANGER, 3d rate, 1 gun, Comdr. F. A. Cook. Making surveys on the coast of Southern California. Off San Diego, Cal., March 1. Mail should be addressed care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal.

St. Mary's, sails, 8 guns, Comdr. A. S. Crowninshield. N. Y. Public Marine School.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. J. McGowan, Jr. Navy-yard, Kittery, Me. Fitting out for a foreign station.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

DALE, Commander Yates Stirling. Receiving Ship. Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

FRANKLIN, 23 guns, Capt. G. C. Wiltse. Receiving ship. Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENCE, 7 howitzers, Comdr. J. W. Philip. Receiving ship. Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

PHLOX, Naval Academy Tug. Mate B. G. Perry in command. Annapolis, Md.

RESCUE, Mate Samuel F. Loma. Used as a fire tug. Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

St. Louis, sails, Capt. Wm. Whiteherd. Receiving ship. Navy-yard, League Island, Pa.

SPEEDWELL, Yard Tug, Mate H. Kuhl, commanding. Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

VERMONT, 7 guns, Capt. Wm. A. Kirkland. Receiving ship. Navy-yard, New York.

WABASH, 20 howitzers, Capt. Joseph N. Miller. Receiving ship. Navy-yard, Boston, Mass.

The iron-clads *Ajax*, *Catekill*, *Lehigh*, *Mahopac*, *Manhattan* and *Wyandotte*, are laid up at City Point, Va., in command of Comdr. Felix McCurley.

Naval Vessels Fitting Out to go into Commission.

Chicago—At New York Navy-yard.

Kearsarge—At Navy-yard, Kittery, Me., being repaired. Will be ready for sea late in the year.

Hartford—At Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal. Repairs will not be made until legislative action is secured.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

Work on the *Kearsarge* at the Kittery Navy-yard is progressing very slowly, partly on account of the terribly cold weather, and partly because of shortness of funds wherewith to push the repairs which have been determined upon.

The *Iroquois*, which went out of commission at Mare Island on March —, was commissioned for sea service at the Mare Island Navy-yard on the 12th of April, 1882, under Commander James H. Sands, and has been on the South Pacific Station ever since. Most of her officers have returned East.

The grounding of the U. S. S. *Pensacola* off Cape Charles last week is ascribed to the fact that the white light at Cape Charles shows red when there is a heavy mist, and was thus mistaken for the red light of Currituck. The attention of the Department has been frequently called to this dangerous peculiarity.

The Bureau of Provisions and Clothing of the Navy has received two diplomas of honor from the Executive Council of the International Health Exhibition of London, signed by Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, President. One is for naval clothing as supplied to the Greely expedition and the other for rations as supplied to that expedition.

The *Hartford* is to be repaired for sea, the \$175,000 appropriation having become a law, and is at once available.

The U. S. S. *Galena* has begun active preparations for sea by receiving a portion of her stores, principally in the Navigation Department.

Under date of Feb. 19, Capt. F. M. Bunce reports the arrival of the U. S. S. *Atlanta*, under his command, at Port au Prince, Hayti, on that day. All well on board.

The installation of the electric light in the Navy Department and a portion of the War Department having been completed, the electricity was turned on this week for the first time, with good effect. The system employed is the Edison incandescent.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from on board the *Tallapoosa* at Montevideo, Uruguay, says: The Alliance is about sailing to the African coast, so the flag is temporarily hoisted on the *Tallapoosa*. There has been no cholera this year nearer than the Chilian boundary and the health of all hands is excellent.

A RESOLUTION was introduced in the House March 12 authorizing the printing of 3,000 copies of the report of the board of naval engineers on the experiments with the boiler of the yacht *Shearwater*, owned by J. M. Forbes, Esq. A full abstract of this report was published in the JOURNAL in November last.

The *Washington Critic* says: "Lieut. James W. Graydon, late of the U. S. Navy, has offered Secretary Whitney to remove that obstinate and provoking plug from the breech of the 10-inch \$100,000 breech loader rifled cannon in two days for \$5,000, but Commodore Sigsbee has declined Graydon's offer."

The *Chicago* is now occupying quite a prominent place at the New York yard, and by contrast with the *Montonomah*, beside whom she is lying, looms up like an old-fashioned 74-gun frigate. Very little work is being done on board at present, and nothing further will be carried out until the completion of her battery.

CIVIL ENGINEER MENCAL, in a report to the Navy Department ascribes the recent falling in of the skylight of the anchor shop at the Norfolk Navy-yard to imperfect plans for the raising of the roof, which were made in accordance with the idea of the contractor, consequently he thinks the latter is responsible for the damage, which will amount to about \$6,000.

ACCORDING to the *Kieler Zeitung* the Germania dockyard at Gaarden has been selected for the construction of an ironclad vessel, which will be the first of six ships of the same class intended for the protection of the maritime canal connecting the Black Sea with the Baltic. A credit of 3,500,000 marks has been set forth in the estimates for 1887-1888 for this flotilla, and sixteen months has been allowed for their completion.

The Board appointed to consider a revision of the pay and rations of the enlisted men in the Navy having submitted their recommendations and suggestions to all commanding officers afloat, have adjourned their sessions until again called together by the President of the Board. This will not be done until a sufficient time has elapsed to ensure replies from nearly every officer in command of any important ship, probably in April. No further action will be taken by Commo. Schley until then.

PROGRESS in the matters before the Board on Floating Batteries appears to be partaking of the massive nature of the subject, for nothing has been done beyond the discussion of the requirements of the situation already adverted to more than once. No meeting of the board has been held for several months, nor is it probable that any further progress will be made in the matter until the Secretary of the Navy sees fit to set the ball in motion again by re-assembling the Board and taking some action upon its recommendations.

The *Invalid Russe* gives some interesting details regarding recent purchases of European ships made by the Pekin Government for the Chinese Navy. The latest addition, built to order in England, is a remarkably fine cruiser which has just arrived in China, carrying 600 miles of submarine cable and the experts under whose charge it will be laid down, between Tai Wan, in the island of Formosa and Fou Tchow. The cruiser has a displacement of 1,033 tons and 1,000 horse-power engines. She is armed with 6 quick-firing guns, and attains a speed of 13 knots. The Chinese Government, the same journal tells us, is following the example of most of the European maritime powers, and is determined to spare no expense in putting the naval defenses of the Empire into thoroughly workmanlike order.

In an article published in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* on the use of oil at sea, Vice Admiral Closs states that oil when dropped on water spreads instantly for many yards around, becoming so thin as to produce the prismatic colors for a considerable distance, and beyond them so much thinner as to be invisible, except in its effect of smoothing the waves at a much greater distance. He estimates the thickness of the layer of oil at 1-90,000 of a millimeter, or .00007 of an inch in thickness. Five pounds of oil were all that were required to keep the waters around the North German Lloyd steamer *Main* oiled for seven hours. The Vice Admiral states that the valuable pilot charts issued at Washington first drew his attention to the subject. He says: "When the use of oil becomes generalized, as I trust it soon will be, not only will passengers be saved from much discomfort when the sea is rough, but also the perils of shipwreck will be lessened, for, however tempestuous the sea, a little, a very little, oil will control its power about the vessel."

NAVY GAZETTE.

Ordered.

MARCH 9.—Pay Director Gilbert E. Thornton to duty at the Navy Pay Office, Washington, D. C., March 31.

MARCH 10.—Lieutenant-Commander H. N. Manney to the Hydrographic Office on March 14.

Chief Engineer E. J. Whitaker to the Receiving Ship Vermont.

P. A. Engineer John R. Edwards to the Receiving Ship Franklin.

MARCH 14.—Surgeon F. L. DeBois to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on March 31.

Assistant Surgeon James F. Keeney to the Receiving Ship Minnesota.

Detached.

MARCH 9.—Lieutenant-Commander Franklin Handford from duty at the West Point Foundry and ordered to the Pensacola.

Pay Director Thomas H. Looker from duty at the Navy Pay Office, Washington, D. C., on March 31, and ordered to settle accounts, then wait orders.

Chief Engineer Charles J. MacConnell from the Receiving Ship Vermont and granted leave of absence for one year.

MARCH 10.—P. A. Surgeon W. H. Rush from the Navy yard, New York, and ordered to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

P. A. Surgeon John M. Steele from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Coast Survey steamer *Bache*.

MARCH 14.—Lieutenant Charles A. Gove from the Branch Hydrographic Office, Boston, and ordered to the Coast Survey.

Ensign Harry Kimmell from the Michigan and ordered to the Coast Survey.

Medical Inspector A. S. Oberly from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., March 31, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain Ed. Crissey from the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla., and ordered to the Swatara.

Orders were issued March 16, detaching Capt. A. P. Cooke and Pay Insp. Stevenson from duty at the Brooklyn Yard.

CASUALTIES.

Deaths reported to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending March 15, 1888:

John A. McKinnon, private, Marine Corps, died Feb. 26 at the Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass.

John Clark, seaman, died March 8 at Government Hospital for the Insane, Washington, D. C.

MARINE CORPS.

NOMINATIONS TO THE SENATE, MARCH 14.

Major Charles Heywood to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Captain McLane Tilton to be Major.

1st Lieutenant Henry H. Costen to be Captain.

2d Lieutenant Francis E. Sutton to be 1st Lieutenant.

MARCH 8.—Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. Broome retired from active service and placed upon the retired list of officers of the U. S. M. C.

Captain J. H. Higbee released from suspension and restored to duty. Captain Higbee was suspended March 14, 1887, for eighteen months.

MARCH 10.—Captain J. H. Higbee ordered to proceed to Portsmouth, N. H., March 19, for duty at that post.

Captain E. P. Meeker detached from the command of the Marines at Brooklyn, N. Y., (upon being relieved by Major Collier) and ordered to command the guard of the Receiving Ship Vermont.

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD INQUIRY.

THE Court appointed to inquire into alleged irregularities in the recent auction sale of old material at the Brooklyn Navy-yard present a long report, the conclusions of which we give, together with the order of the Secretary of the Navy. A statement of "findings of fact" accompanied the report. What these findings are is shown by the "Opinion" and the order of the Secretary:

OPINION OF THE COURT.

First. In the opinion of the Court all suitable steps were not taken in preparing and arranging for the sale of August 30, as there appears not to have been sufficient consultation or pre-arrangement of method between the Commandant or Acting Commandant and the General Storekeeper prior to the sale, the printed instructions, Exhibit I of the Record, constituting the only guide thereto, and that the sale was not conducted in strict accordance with the circular nor with a wise regard to the public interest, in so far as it was concluded in a few hours, whereas the Court is of the opinion that it should have been extended over several days and carried on in the immediate vicinity of the various lots as they were offered, the large quantity of stores in the Department of Equipment, Construction and Ordnance seeming to demand such a course. It also appears to the Court that a more extended division of the lots, which would have enabled persons of small means to bid, and thus tended to prevent combinations as referred to in the Department's letter of August 5, was advisable, and, in view of the liberal commission allowed the auctioneer, and the specific directions above referred to, the Department had every reason to expect.

Second. All suitable and practicable steps were not taken in order to insure that the articles and material disposed of at the auction sale of Aug. 30 might be delivered to purchasers in exact accordance with the terms of sale, the evidence showing that irresponsible persons connected with the General Storekeepers were assigned to the duty of lifting and delivering the material sold at the aforesaid sale.

Third. The General Storekeeper, Pay Inspector Stevenson, was directly responsible for the preparation and arrangement of the property sold on Aug. 30. That the Quartermaster Laborer Wm. McNamara arranged the bidders for the sale of November 12, and that Carpenter Toy, a member of the Board appointed to take charge of and conduct the sale of November 12, marked the aforesaid boats with numbers corresponding to the auctioneer's schedule. That the General Storekeeper, Pay Inspector Stevenson, was made responsible for the identification of the property sold at both sales, and for the identification of the same for delivery after the sale.

It also appears to the Court that the assignment of the duties of weighmaster to two warrant officers without any check upon their individual action in establishing the correctness and integrity of their work was imprudent on the part of the Acting Commandant, Capt. A. P. Cooke, in so assigning them, and not calculated to properly protect the best interests of the Government.

Fourth. Irregularities did occur in the sales of Aug. 30 and November 12, after the sales and during the delivery of the articles or materials sold, which irregularities have been specified in the finding of the Court, together with the names of the officers or employees who were responsible for the said irregularities.

The additions to the schedule and sale thereof without authority, referred to in the finding, have caused no pecuniary loss to the Government, except in the case of boilers as stated, but being contrary to law and irregular, lead to scandals.

In conclusion, the Court deems it proper to call the attention of the Honorable Secretary of the Navy to the general character of the evidence adduced, an examination of which will show that many of the witnesses who testified were el-

ther painfully ignorant of what was going on in the Department of which they had charge, or as to their immediate duties; or else that they wilfully withheld from the Court or reluctantly gave information as to the matters under investigation.

ORDER OF SECRETARY WHITNEY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, March 14, 1888.

A comparison of the testimony with the findings of the Board sustains, for the most part, the findings. It is not necessary to go over the case in detail. The discrepancies between the quantities on the printed schedule and those paid for after the sale, are, in general, satisfactorily explained. These discrepancies arrested the attention of the Department and caused the inquiry in the first instance.

In some cases the findings of the Board are somewhat too severe, in that explanatory matter is not referred to. After examining the case most carefully I see no sufficient ground for questioning the good faith and honest motive of the officers having to do with the conduct of the sale. But the most unbusinesslike methods characterized the proceedings. The Government has probably suffered somewhat, by reason of these things, and it will be the duty of the proper officers to make claim for and to recover the amounts from the purchasers where practicable.

In the cases where allowances and reductions were made to bidders after the sale, it is to be said that they were wholly without authority and illegal. The characteristic of an auction sale like this is that the bidders buy at their own risk and after every opportunity to examine. When the article is struck off a contract of purchase is made. That contract there is no authority in any one to vary. If for any reason (misrepresentation as to the character of the goods or any other cause), the purchaser can and does repudiate the contract, then there is no sale and the property must be put up again.

In these cases, private terms were made with the purchasers after the sale, by giving reductions and making allowances, and in some cases most absurdly, for things perfectly apparent to the bidders when they examined the goods. It is said to have been done at former sales, and in extension, occurrences much more reprehensible are referred to.

Bidders will avail of every expedient for their advantage. They have tried this one at every other yard where sales have recently been held, but without success. An auction sale becomes a farce if, after the bids have been made and accepted, better terms are allowed to be made to the bidders privately, for any cause. The legal custodian of the property and the person primarily responsible for the proper conduct of the sale and the delivery of the goods was the General Storekeeper. The concurrence of a superior officer does not relieve him. Pay officers are relied upon for knowledge and practice of proper business methods, and by appropriate orders the General Storekeeper had been made the custodian of this property and been given charge of the delivery. Yet a proper discharge of duty by the Captain of the Yard, then acting Commandant, would have avoided most of these grave causes of complaint. The Captain of the Yard and the General Storekeeper will be detached.

An effort should be made to recover from the bidders upon the contracts as they were made at the public sale, and if they refuse, and proper case can be made, report should be made to the District Attorney of the District. Some minor cases affecting clerks will receive further consideration when other officers shall have been detailed to the Yard.

A careful examination of the record fails to connect the Commandant of the Yard with these irregularities, so as to call for any action. He approved of the illegal sale of the boilers after it had been made; but it is satisfactorily shown that he supposed the sale to have been made by proper authority.

A boat was improperly withdrawn from the sale, based upon his assumed authority, but it is shown that his request was misunderstood, he having given orders for the bidding off of the boat, and not that it should be withdrawn.

One or two other irregularities were testified to, but the mistakes were, in general, corrected before action was had, and no sufficient ground for any action reflecting upon the Commandant is shown.

It is with much regret that the Department feels called upon to take this action concerning officers of usually meritorious record and conduct, but there is no other course possible, unless scandals injurious to the Department and to the Service are to be perpetuated and encouraged. Subject to the foregoing findings and opinion of the Court of Inquiry are approved.

W. C. WHITNEY, Secretary of the Navy.

STATIONS OF COAST SURVEY VESSELS.

W. H. Brownson, Lt. Comdr. U. S. N., Hydrographic Insp'r. Coast and Geodetic Survey Office.
Lt. G. H. Peters, U. S. N., Coast and Geodetic Survey Office.
Lt. M. L. Wood, U. S. N., Coast and Geodetic Survey Office.
Ensign E. H. Tilton, Coast and Geodetic Survey Office.
P. A. Paymaster J. N. Speer, U. S. N., Harrisburg, Pa.
Steamer A. B. Bache, Lieut. J. P. Moser, U. S. N., commanding. Address, Key West, Fla.
Steamer G. S. Blake, Lt. J. E. Pillsbury, U. S. N., comdg. Address Port Cautras, Sao Lucas, West Indies.
Schooner *Edwint*, Lieut. H. T. Mayo, U. S. N. Address Olympia, Wash. Ter.
Steamer *Gedney*, Lieut. F. H. Crosby, U. S. N., comdg. Address Morgan City, La.
Steamer *Hawley*, U. S. N., comdg. Address Mare Island Navy-yard, Cal.
Steamer *McArthur*, Lieut. J. C. Burnett, U. S. N., comdg. Address Oakland, Cal.
Frigate *Patterson*, Lt. Comdr. Chas. W. Thomas, U. S. N., comdg. Address Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.
Schooner *Scoreby*, Lieut. Francis Winslow, U. S. N., commanding. Address New Berne, N. C.

FISH COMMISSION.

The *Albatross*, Lieut. Commander G. L. Tanner, comdg. Arrived at Talcahuana, Chili, on Feb. 16, and would sail on 20th for Callao, en route to San Francisco. The vessel had experienced bad weather, but had made a good voyage. All were well on board.

The *Lookout*, the crew of the *Lookout* has been discharged and the vessel is for sale.

The *Fish Hawk*, Mate James A. Smith, commanding. At Wood's Holl.

The *Grampus*, Capt. J. W. Collins, comdg. At Gloucester, Mass.

MARCH 7, Captain J. W. French, 25th Inf., slipped on the ice at Fort Meade and had a heavy fall on his back and the back of his head. The shock was pretty severe, as the Captain weighs about 200 pounds.

THE "Journal Official" says that Gen. Boulanger came to Paris Feb. 24, again on March 2, and again on March 10 without permission from the War Office. The last two times, it says, he was in disguise, wearing dark spectacles and affecting lameness. The paper dwells on the serious nature of such breaches of discipline by a general officer. It further publishes a decree depriving Gen. Boulanger of his present command, which has been approved by President Carnot.

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GENERAL SHERIDAN's proposition to extend the
disability retired list of the Army for the purpose
of relieving the active list of 80 odd officers on ex-
tended sick leave has finally secured the approval of
the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, and will
probably soon receive the endorsement of the Mil-
itary Committee of the House. The desire for
promotion has brought forward many advocates of
this measure, and it has received strong endorse-
ments from the Secretary of War and the Lieuten-
ant-General. Should the measure become a law
this year, President Cleveland would have an
opportunity to appoint as second lieutenants prob-
ably 50 or 60 civilians, not to speak of the pro-
motions that would follow in the higher grades.

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we may give the matter our immediate attention.

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ARMYNAVY.

PROSPECTS FOR COAST DEFENCE.

It is now more than two years since Samuel J.
Tilden addressed to Speaker Carlisle, of the House
of Representatives, that notable letter in which he
presented so clearly and convincingly the argument
in favor of providing at once for the defence of our
sea coasts. Aside from the evidence this letter
affords we chance to know that the subject was one
to which Mr. Tilden devoted the most careful consid-
eration, and the most thorough investigation. Favored
with an ample fortune he was able to supply himself
with everything which could throw light on the subject,
and he brought to its consideration that habit of careful
analysis which his training as a lawyer gave him, as well
as an acuteness of intellect such as few men are gifted
with. It is interesting to note then that the result of
the unprejudiced investigations of such a man was to
convince him of the importance of the questions
which our Army officers, of the Engineer Corps
especially, have been urging upon public attention
for so many years and with so little effect. So con-
vinced was Mr. Tilden of the necessity of coast de-
fence that he presented his views to the President as
a suggestion for his first message. It not being
thought expedient to incorporate them there they
were made public in the form of a letter to the
Speaker of the House, Mr. Carlisle. It is strange
that they should have received so little considera-
tion and that so little progress should have been
made during the years that have passed in securing
action upon the recommendations of Mr. Tilden.
"To provide effectual defences would be the work
of years," he declared Dec. 1, 1885. "It would
take much time to construct permanent fortifica-
tions. A small provision of the best modern guns
would take several years. Neither of these works
can be extemporized in presence of emergent danger.
A million of soldiers, with the best equipments, on

the heights surrounding the harbor of New York, in
our present state of preparation, or rather in our
total want of preparation, would be powerless to
resist a small squadron of war steamers."

"This state of things," he added, "is discredit-
able to our foresight and to our prudence." It is
even more discreditable now, and grows more so
with every month and year that passes. "The best
guarantee against aggression," Mr. Tilden continues,
"the best assurance that our diplomacy will be suc-
cessful and pacific, and that our rights and honor
will be respected by other nations, is in their knowl-
edge that we are in a situation to vindicate our
reputation and interests. While we may afford to
be deficient in the means of offence, we cannot af-
ford to be defenceless. The notoriety of the fact
that we have neglected the ordinary precautions of
defence invites want of consideration in our diplo-
macy, injustice, arrogance and insult at the hands
of foreign nations."

What words of wisdom are these! If we do not
heed them now, shall we ever do so? If, said Mr.
Tilden, "we do not make the expenditure necessary
to provide for our sea coast defences, when we have
a surplus, and have no need to levy new taxes, we
certainly will not make those expenditures when we
have no longer a surplus in the Treasury. To leave
our vast interests defenceless in order to reduce the
cost of whiskey to its consumers, would be a solec-
ism." This is even more true now, and the
thought of our legislators at Washington should
be wholly occupied with getting rid of that sur-
plus by expending it upon these works of wisdom
and necessity to whose importance this wise politi-
cal leader invited their attention with such earnest-
ness and ability.

We are glad to note some signs that Congress is
beginning to appreciate the importance of this
question. The Senate Committee on Coast De-
fences has this week reported favorably on
the bill of Senator Dolph to carry out the recom-
mendations of the Board of Engineers on Fortifica-
tions, which call for an appropriation of \$120,-
378,800, extending over the next thirteen fiscal
years. The House Committee on Military Affairs
has, as we reported last week, approved the Benét
Cutcheon bill appropriating \$7,475,000 for modern
guns. This is a wise expenditure of a portion of
the surplus, and we hope that the action of the
committees will receive the approval of Congress
and the President.

With the exception of a few changes in phrase-
ology, and in the place for the establishment of the
foundry, which is now to be located at Watervliet
the Dolph measure is the same as the one passed by
the Senate last session. The House bill reported is
H. R. 8465, and is a substitute for Mr. Cutcheon's
bill, H. R. 1555, and Mr. Tracey's, H. R. 4297. A
long report accompanies the bill showing the neces-
sity for this appropriation, and stating that "the
committee believes that the time has arrived when
there is a practical agreement upon all hands as to
the need of some immediate steps to put our country
in a state of defence." Of the total appropriation,
\$750,000 is for the gun factory at Watervliet;
\$5,000,000 for gun steel; \$500,000 for 12-in. mor-
tars; \$225,000 for carriages and equipments;
\$500,000 for "manufacture and tests of guns and
carriages, projectiles, powder," etc.; and \$500,000
for "submarine mines and appliances."

WIMBLEDON and Creedmoor appear to have fallen
upon evil times together. The English rifle ground
is about to be broken up by the refusal of the Duke
of Cambridge to longer lease Wimbledon Common,
which is his property, for rifle shooting. Creedmoor
is calling upon the State of New York to help it out
of its difficulties by taking it for a gift, allowing the
National Rifle Association the use of the ground for
its members. No doubt the State will consent, as
thus far no substitute has been found for Creed-
moor as a training ground for the National Guard.
Few people realize how much hard work has been
done by volunteers to establish and maintain the
Long Island Rifle Range since the first meeting to
organize a rifle association was called in the office
of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. General Wingate
has held on to the end, and has appeared recently
at Albany, with others, to urge the State action for
the presentation of Creedmoor.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF RAILROADS.

THE national problem of most immediate importance, and one that more and more imperatively demands solution with each year that action upon it is delayed, is the problem of directing and controlling our great railroads. What the circulatory system is to the individual body the railroad system is to the body politic in our modern organization of society. Interference with it must paralyze, and if too long continued destroy: yet we view, if not with complacency at least with ineffectual protest, the assumption of the right to control our means of transportation and intercourse which are put forth by capital on the one side and by labor on the other. The struggle between these, which is conducted as though they were the only parties in interest, is one that concerns every industry in the land, every household and each citizen.

The extent to which corporate exactions have gone has been recently shown in a volume by James F. Hudson, published by Harper and Brothers, entitled "The Railways and the Republic." Mr. Hudson argues that the increase of national wealth is not distributed among all classes according to their industry or prudence, but is concentrated among those who enjoy the favor of the railway power; and general independence and self-respect are made impossible, while the prosperity or extinction of business enterprises are dependent upon the favor or enmity of the men who control the transportation routes. Involved in the problem of railway regulation, as he declares, are the preservation of the freedom of competition, the integrity of the commercial and popular character and the prosperity of the masses, the restraint of arbitrary power and of corrupt or mercenary influences. An attempt has been made to restrain corporate exaction by legislative enactments and constitutional restrictions, "but these constitutional and statutory provisions are simply ignored by railway magnates who are stronger than the constitution and the laws."

On the other hand we are confronted by combinations of labor threatening to deprive us at a word of the means of intercommunication and interchange upon which depends the very existence of the community as at present organized. How can we meet this double danger; how effectively assert those principles of law which have been declared with sufficient distinctness; for State and Federal Courts agree that our railroads were created by sovereign powers which could only be exercised for public use, and which made the public rights the supreme obligation in their administrations. Mr. Hudson's idea is that the railways should be compelled to open their lines to free competition in the carrying business, retaining all powers necessary to direct the movements of trains with safety and speed, and taking uniform tolls of all sufficient to repair and maintain the track, to pay fixed charges and leave a fair dividend upon the *bona fide* capital invested, which actual investment he estimates at about one-half of the aggregate of bonded indebtedness and nominal capital.

But Mr. Hudson's plan meets only part of the difficulty and provides no remedy against the dangers arising from the discontent of abused, or at least dissatisfied, employees. The tendency of events seems to us to be in the direction of Government control of our railroads. The aggregate of railroad indebtedness and capitalization was estimated in 1883 at seventy-five thousand millions, \$7,495,000,000, of which nearly one-half was fictitious. It must now aggregate nine or ten thousand millions. Assuming that these roads could be run under Government control as economically as now, they would earn enough with one-half their present receipts (if the figures given are correct) to pay the Government rate of three per cent. on their actual cost and furnish a sinking fund which would pay for them in twenty-five years. This certainly affords a large margin for more expensive administration. Aside from the economic advantages from Government control of our railroads we should have the further advantage of providing for the public defence a body of men who, with proper training, under a semi-military administration, could be made most effective. Some of the old arguments against such a change in railroad control are disappearing as men are learning year by year how much less they

have to fear from the organized control which we call Government than from the disorganized and irresponsible despotisms of railroad and trades union combinations of one sort or another.

THE CIRCUMLOCUTION OFFICE.

OUR correspondent, "Tel Hur," has some sarcastic and well deserved flings at the circumlocution office in Washington, which worries to the verge of insanity any unfortunate who may be condemned by the fates to ask for a settlement of accounts with the Government. There is some hope, we are glad to say, of a reform in the department methods. A special committee of Congress, which has been at work for a year examining into the subject, has just presented a report in a volume of 863 printed pages, not including voluminous appendices. The committee present a specimen of circumlocution between the General Land Office and the Register of the Treasury, which they characterize as a farcical routine. A clerk in the Land Office, dealing for the moment with the account of a Receiver of Public Moneys, wishing to know the balance for or against that official at the last settlement, instead of asking for it directly sent out a written inquiry which passed through fifteen hands and was indexed or recorded eight times before the circuit was completed. Congress appropriated money for the payment of several hundred claims which had been allowed after being presented in due form and exhaustively investigated through the elaborate machinery of the War and the Treasury Departments. It was found to be well founded and an estimate was submitted to Congress for its payment. "It would seem," says the report, "to an ordinary intelligent citizen that the Secretary of the Treasury had ample authority to make a payment of such claims directly to the parties named, without any further examinations, certifications, entries, counter entries, and red tape *ad nauseam*. But the payments are not so made. There have been 10,811 claims of this character passed upon and approved since 1874, and in each case the course of settlement, after passing the stage of Congressional approval and appropriations has been as follows."

Then follows a description of the passage of the account through over forty different hands before it took final shape in a war pay warrant.

"The committee finds the work up to this point 'useless and unnecessary and not justified by law.' It recommends that hereafter such language be used in laws authorizing the payment of such claims as will require the Secretary of the Treasury to dispense with the useless routine. The committee finds the method of payment in the Signal Office a needless triplication of accounts. It finds the Second Auditor's clerks writing thousands of letters to the Quartermaster-General's clerks for information to be obtained from copies of pay rolls in the Quartermaster-General's office, the originals of which were prepared in, and are now on file in the very office whence the inquiries emanate. It finds the condition of business in the General Land Office now and for many years past 'chaotic,' from a want or lack of plain, correct business methods and requirements, promptly and uniformly enforced." It finds the life of patents extended by delays in the patent office.

The committee compliments the Paymaster-General for the simplicity of the business methods of his office and the promptness which results therefrom; and it bestows unstinted praise upon Assistant Surgeon F. C. Ainsworth, in charge of the record and pension division of the Surgeon-General's office, for the reforms accomplished by him. When Dr. Ainsworth took charge of this office—one of the largest divisions in any of the departments—the report says, he found an arrearage of 9,511 unanswered pension cases. Without additional force—in fact, with some reduction—he gradually reduced the number, by the simple process of requiring greater diligence, and in the meanwhile he set about improving the system. The result is so simple as to be almost ridiculous. They found an accumulation of business in the Adjutant-General's office, the disposition of which required an examination of muster rolls, the entire number of rolls being 402,916. The committee devoted careful attention to the study of this work with a view to effecting a reform, and finally recommended to the Secretary of War and

the Adjutant-General the adoption of Dr. Ainsworth's card system, which recommendation has been adopted. An incident to the committee's study of this particular problem was the discovery that some years ago a clerk in the Adjutant-General's office, since deceased, invented and recommended the adoption of this identical system. It was tried hesitatingly, and abandoned summarily as not meeting the requirement. The committee's recommendations are scattered throughout the report. One of the most important is that the Secretaries of the Treasury and War each appoint a commission in their departments to study the present methods and attempt to discover for themselves, wherein reforms are possible and how needless routine can be avoided. Both Secretaries have advised the committee that they will carry out the suggestions.

THE estimates for the British Army and Navy for 1888-89 show a total of \$84,261,595 for the Army and \$69,941,905 for the Navy, a decrease as compared with 1887-88 of \$5,288,000, viz.: for the Army \$760,095, and for the Navy, \$4,527,905. Of the amount noted for the Army, \$15,183,000 is for pensions, rewards for distinguished service, retired pay and allowances and half-pay. The force provided for is 149,667, exclusive of India, and the details of the appropriations are as follows:

General Staff Pay, and Regimental Pay and Allowances, and other charges.....	1887-8.	1888-9.
Chaplain's Department, Pay, etc.....	£1,922,825	£1,977,000
Staff of Military Prisons, etc.....	24,000	32,400
Medical Establishments.....	334,000	304,500
Militia Pay and Allowances.....	571,500	555,000
Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances.....	75,000	75,000
Volunteer Corps Pay and Allowances.....	655,000	720,700
Army Reserve, including enrolled Pensioners, etc.....	445,700	442,200
Transport and Remounts.....	688,135	652,000
Provisions, Forage, Fuel and other Commissariat Stores.....	2,014,100	2,500,000
Clothing Establishments, Services and Supplies.....	830,000	845,800
Warlike and other Stores.....	1,912,476	1,410,000
Works, Buildings, and Repairs.....	765,912	645,500
Military Education Establishments.....	120,705	119,800
Miscellaneous Effective Services.....	70,299	68,000
War Office Salaries, etc.....	220,100	257,500
	£13,784,119	£18,672,700

MR. JOHN W. FRAZIER is considering the subject of the decline of American shipping, its cause, and how it may be revived, in a series of articles appearing in "Seaboard." The extent of this decline is shown by the fact that the percentage of exports and imports carried in American bottoms declined from 89.90 in 1830 to 15.98 in 1886. In 1840 it was 82.90; 1850, 72.50; 1860, 66.50—or an average of 77.70 for the four decades preceding the War. The percentages since then have been 27.30 for 1905; 35.60 for 1870; 17.40 for 1880, and 15.98 for 1886. From the fact of the continuous falling off, Mr. Frazier argues that other causes beside the breaking up of our commerce during the War of Secession are responsible for the decline. The exact loss to the shipping interests of the United States during the late War is represented to have been 879,257 tons, as follows: Captured and destroyed on the high seas, 104,605 tons; transferred to foreign flags, 774,652 tons. It is to national neglect of this important industry that its continued decline is ascribed. For the purpose of showing the liberality of other nations in respect to ocean mail service, as compared with that of our own country, the following statement is given:

Years.	Countries.	Service.	Amount paid.
1880	United States,	Ocean Mail	\$198,168.98
1880	England,	"	3,327,230.00
1880	France,	"	4,677,778.00
1880	Italy,	"	3,228,811.00
1880	Brazil,	"	1,700,000.00
1880	Japan,	"	500,000.00

For the year ended June 30, 1886, the cost of our foreign mail service was \$412,443.43, of which over nine-tenths went to foreign lines, the American steamship companies receiving but \$40,000. In addition to paying nearly five million dollars a year for the foreign mail service, France gives a liberal bounty for ship building, which for a 3,000 ton steamer is estimated at \$89,015 for the first year's service. Prince Bismarck is quoted as saying of this liberal policy of France towards her shipping interests: "The merchant marine is the handmaid of all other industries, of agriculture and of commerce, and this act will create for France a powerful navy which may prove of effective service in time of war." It is to be hoped that success will follow the attempt to inaugurate in this country a

similar liberal policy in dealing with domestic shipping. Without some change is made, there is every prospect that our mercantile marine will continue to decline until our ships are driven from the ocean.

New York and Washington have this week, in common with other cities on the Atlantic seaboard, experienced the novel sensation of being cut off for three days from communication with the outer world as completely as though railroads and telegraphs were things of the past. The only telegraphic communication between New York and Washington was for a time via New Orleans, St. Louis, and Chicago. The first despatches that passed between Boston and New York after the storm set in were by the way of London. Dakota seized upon the opportunity to return in kind the compliments it has been accustomed to receive from New York, and messages of mock sympathy were sent to Mayor Hewitt offering food and clothing to the sufferers by the New York blizzard. New Yorkers in return reported that they had discovered the cause of their discomfort when they examined a hotel register and found recorded upon it the name of "A. Blizard, Dakota." The weather bureau failed to give the slightest hint of the coming catastrophe, which is ascribed by the Army officers in the bureau to the transfer of the office of prediction from them to the professors, Professor Abbey having run the predictions of 90 per cent. by Lieut. Dunwoody for February down to 40 or 50 per cent. for March thus far, those by Professor Hazen for January being no better. It would appear that a water-laden zephyr from the South, such as is expected North in this spring month, arrived over the scene of atmospheric disturbance just as a North Pole wind came down from across the lakes at an express train gait. The two could not agree, and the result was the worst weather this vicinity has seen since any record was kept. As an evidence of the fury of the storm, ex-Senator Roscoe Conkling states that while travelling up Broadway he became so completely bewildered in Union Square just after dusk that he was lost for some 20 minutes, and narrowly escaped losing his life in a snow drift. A less stalwart gentleman named Baremore did lose his life in this way while going from the Elevated Railroad station to his hotel, corner Broadway and 57th street. Not only was all communication between New York and the outer world suspended, but intercommunication within the city was stopped. Business was suspended in consequence. This was on Monday. By Tuesday symptoms were presented of a resumption of travel, which was completed by Friday. Thousands of cart loads of snow were dumped off the wharves, and by means of steam-heat and fires the snow was melted in places, mild weather hastening the process. Business at the headquarters of the Division of the Atlantic and Department of the East at Governor's Island was suspended, communication across the ferry being suspended for a time, and the Chief Clerk having to make connection by walking in from his home at Woodside, L. I., after being snowed in there for two days. The loss by the great Eastern blizzard of March, 1888, is estimated at many millions of dollars in New York City alone.

PURSUANT to section 1 of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1883, prescribing regulations for the Soldiers' Home in the District of Columbia, the Adjutant-General has issued in pamphlet form the reports of the Board of Commissioners of the Home and of the Inspector-General of the Army for 1887, to "be deposited in each garrison and post library," as directed by the act in question.

THE *Enterprise*, Commander McCalla, has arrived at Tangiers and reinforced the authority of Consul Lewis for the release of the Hebrew, Rabat, who claims protection as a citizen of the United States. A cable despatch to the New York *World*, dated Tangier, March 13, says: "The Sultan told the United States Consul General to-day that the imprisonment was the only way he could collect debts from Moorish citizens claiming American protection, and that he should refuse to release the prisoners. The Sultan has the support of nearly all the representatives of the European powers, who are desirous of abolishing the 'Protectorate' system. The Moors have been rowing out in boats to where the *Enterprise* lies at anchor, and have amused

themselves by jeering at the American sailors. Thus far the presence of the American man-of-war has been entirely ineffectual. Spain has some ulterior motive not yet apparent in urging Morocco not to yield to the American exigencies." The *World* adds that "the Moorish authorities, emboldened by the non-arrival of the United States man-of-war, proceeded to seize another native entitled to American protection, at Casablanca, and after burning his house to the ground, proceeded to flog him and his family through the public streets of the place and to fling them into prison. Consul General Lewis's demands for redress for this second outrage were treated with even greater contempt than those in the matter of the prisoner at Rabat."

Nothing is known at the State Department regarding this report. To a *Herald* correspondent Secretary Bayard said: "There is always more or less trouble with foreign countries about these 'protected' Americans. There is nothing new in the present state of affairs. I have received no telegram from Consul General Lewis about the Sultan's refusal. I presume the matter will be speedily and satisfactorily settled."

CHAPLAIN G. G. MULLINS, U. S. A., is now general manager of the Mullins's Silicated Iron and Steel Company, which has recently purchased the Whitman patent used in casting the steel gun by the Pittsburgh Steel Casting Company. The transfer of the Whitman patent is made as a compromise to prevent litigation on claims of infringement of patent rights. With reference to this, Chaplain Mullins writes us: "In 1871 I first discovered the principle, and in 1872 first publicly declared that I had gone far enough in my studies and experiments to proclaim that I would yet prove silica to be as helpful an ally in metallurgy as carbon. Chemists and metallurgists laughed me to scorn! I fought long years to get a patent. Meantime, Whitman coming long after me, strange to say, was granted one corner of the field which had been refused me. I claim not only to be the original discoverer, but to be the only man living who has given long years to the study of silica and silicon. My invention applies to all the departments of manufacture of iron and steel—cast iron, wrought iron, steel and cast steel. Our comprehensive right is now exclusive and placed beyond all dispute. Our company is a strong one and I have reason to look for great success."

THAT the Senate did not attach much importance to Father O'Shea's claim on the Army chaplaincy is shown by the prompt confirmation of Father Dolphin. His nomination was passed by the Senate Military Committee without a single word of opposition, and in the Senate was taken up out of its regular order and confirmed. Father O'Shea's only means of redress now is through the Court of Claims. He should be, and probably will be, granted pay for the period from the date of acceptance of appointment until the confirmation of Father Dolphin, but on that date his career as chaplain necessarily ends. In the case of *Marbury v. Madison* the Supreme Court decided that "the salary of an officer commences from his appointment; not from the transmission or acceptance of his commission." Also that "when a person appointed to any office refuses to accept, the successor is nominated in the place of the person who has declined, and not in the place of the person who had been previously in office." This was not done in the case of O'Shea.

THE N. Y. *Sun* says: "The practice of wearing button-hole badges is becoming so general among public men in Washington that the tailors are thinking of inventing a new style garment that will have buttonholes all the way down, from the collar of the coat to the bottom of the skirt." The soldier organizations have alone half a dozen different buttons, indicating membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, the Loyal Legion, the United Service Club, the Union Veteran Corps, and other societies. The latest button is that adopted by the Republican League, organized in New York last fall. This button is quite a striking and unique one, being made of white porcelain, with the letters 'R. L. U. S.' in gilt."

A WASHINGTON correspondent writes: "If any one—North or South, East or West, Union or Confederate—is in want of money and has enough ingenuity to invent a claim, or can hire some one else to do so, he or she need only come here, present a tolerable smooth story and get the money. This Congress is liberal. Democrats and Republicans have combined to 'get away with the surplus,' and there has not been so good a chance to get a dip into the Treasury for a number of years."

THE Secretary of State has received from the U. S. Consul at Piedras Negras, Mexico, a full report of the recent troubles at Eagle Pass, Texas, between civil officers and Mexican troops, in which one of the latter was killed. It conforms in the main with

the accounts published in the newspapers at the time.

A new treaty with China has been signed and will be sent to the President at once for transmission to Congress.

Military Order of the Loyal Legion.

A stated meeting of the Boston Commandery was held at the Hotel Vendome, Wednesday evening, March 7. The following applications for membership were elected to the first class: Charles Francis Adams, Bvt. Brig. Gen., U. S. V.; John Atherton Barr, only son of the late Bvt. Maj. Thos. O. Barr, U. S. A.; Chas. Henry Davis, Bvt. Maj., U. S. V.; Henry Lee Higginson, Maj., U. S. V.; Wm. Henry Hodgkins, Bvt. Maj., U. S. V.; Chas. Augustus Hopkins, Bvt. Maj., U. S. V.; Gen. Wm. Le Favour, U. S. V.; Carmel Lathrop Marsh, 2d Lieut., 13th Vermont Inf., U. S. V.; Wm. Augustus Morgan, Lieut. Comdr., U. S. N.; Chas. Edw. Pierce, 1st Lt., 4th Mass. Heavy Art., U. S. V.; Edward Henry Powell, 1st Col., 10th U. S. Colored Troops; Josiah Quincy, in succession to Comd. Bvt. Brig. Gen. S. M. Quincy, dec.; Sylvanus Cobb Small, 1st Lieut., U. S. V.; Howard Stockton, Bvt. Capt., U. S. A.; Albert Wilbur Sturdy, 2d Lt., 18th Mass. Inf., U. S. V. The Pennsylvania Commandery, referring to the death, last November, of Gen. Chas. Mallet Prevost, U. S. V., says: "His health was permanently destroyed by the wound received at Shepherdstown. For nine years preceding his death he was paralyzed in his lower limbs in consequence of the ball, which had never been extracted, pressing against the spine. His optic nerves were indirectly affected, and the sight of his eye became so feeble as to leave him for the last year practically blind. But his sufferings were borne with uncomplaining, manly fortitude. The spectacle of his silent martyrdom excited the admiration, sympathy and love of his friends and companions. He was a courteous, Christian gentleman, and a thorough soldier. His patriotism, so conspicuously exhibited during the war, continued warm and fervent until the close of his life." Referring to the late Joel Parker, ex-Governor of New Jersey, the Commandery says: "Gov. Parker was of a noble mould and of commanding presence, of a kindly and generous disposition, an affectionate father and husband, a faithful friend, a loyal, just and upright gentleman."

DR. WM. MARTIN, U. S. N., visited Washington this week from New Orleans. He is still a sufferer from rheumatism contracted at Sitka, where he was formerly stationed.

LIEUT. WILLIAM H. REEDER, of the *Galena*, has been quite sick for some time, and has been under treatment at the St. James. He is on the mend, however, and expects to be fully recovered by the time his ship is ready for sea.

MISS JOSEPHINE LYONS, of Richmond, a cousin of Passed Asst. Surgeon Cunningham W. Deane, of the Navy, left for Richmond a few days since after a most agreeable visit of several weeks to Norfolk, as the guest of Col. Walter H. Taylor. Miss Lyons spent a portion of the winter in Washington.

CAPTAIN J. A. SNYDER, 3d Inf., is greatly improved in health, and able to receive his friends at the Woodmont, Washington, D. C. This cheering assurance is contrary to the apprehension of some weeks since on the part of his friends and his medical attendant.

LIEUTENANT SEDGWICK RICE, 7th Cav., met with a painful accident Wednesday, March 7, between Fort Meade and Deadwood, D. T. His horse fell in crossing an icy place, throwing his rider forward. Lieut. Rice was badly bruised in the face and his right ankle was broken.

CAPT. C. R. ROBINSON, U. S. Marine Corps, lately arrived from a tour of duty on the European station, was detached from the *Pensacola* and ordered to duty at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y., March 3, under date of the 8th March. Capt. Robinson is granted a leave of absence for thirty days from the 11th.

We learn that the bill for the relief of Col. McClure, D. P. M. General now pending and before the committee, is identical with the bill introduced in the 49th Congress, for the first time, and which was favorably reported by the Committee on Military Affairs in the House. It was placed on the calendar, but was not acted on for the reason that it was not reached before the adjournment of that Congress.

THE proposition for the complete remodeling of the pay and status of the personnel of the Navy, which has been noticed here, has been received with considerable favor by members of the naval committees of the two Houses, and its presentation in both Houses of Congress has been determined upon. There is an evident disposition on the part of the two committees to do something to put an end to the disputes between the line and staff, and as the measure referred to is a step in that direction the chances are that the committees will act upon it promptly.

THE Navy Register "To January 1, 1888," has made its appearance in the usual neat blue cover, and with the information arranged on the same plan as its immediate predecessor, the one for July of last year. The changes which have been made among the officers of the Navy have resulted in leaving at the head of their several grades the following: Stephen B. Luce is the senior Rear Admiral; George E. Belknap is number one of the list of Commodores; Captain J. G. Walker stands at the head of the Captains; Commander W. S. Schley is number one for promotion to captain; Lt. Comdr. J. K. Winn, Lieut. C. H. West, Junior Lieut. Frank J. Milligan, Ensign P. V. Landale and Naval Cadet Frederick N. Kress stand at the head of the list of their respective grades. In the staff the following are the top men in their several corps: Medical Director, Francis M. Gunnell; Medical Inspector, John C. Spear; Surgeon, Theodor Woolverton; Passed Assistant Surgeon, George E. H. Harmon; Assistant Surgeon, Frederick A. Healer; Pay Director, Thos. H. Looker; Pay Inspector, Frank C. Cosby; Paymaster, George A. Lyon; Passed Assistant Paymaster, John W. Jordan; Assistant Paymaster, R. T. Mason; Ball; Chief Engineer, Francis C. Dade; Passed Assistant Engineer, Ralph Aston; Assistant Engineer, R. I. Reid; Cadet Engineer, Gustave Kammerling. The total resignations number 17; retirements, 7; deaths, 21—of which 13 were on the retired list. Two were dropped and one was dismissed. The total pages number 184 as compared with 199 in the last Register. Medicine and Surgery is the only Bureau provided with an assistant to the Bureau. The general arrangement of the Register is identical with the one of July, 1886, and will be ready for general distribution in a short time.

THE STATE TROOPS.

EXTRA TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

We give here the text of a very interesting lecture on this subject, delivered at the meeting of the officers of the National Guard of Vermont, by Lieutenant Peter Leary, 4th Art., Fort Preble, Me. We omit the description of the new field gun with which our batteries are armed, which concluded the lecture. It will be read with interest by organizations of the Militia other than those to whom it was addressed, and will be found equally serviceable by them. We commend it to the attention of all. The paper was read to the Artillery officers of the Vermont National Guard, during the session of the officers' school at St. Albans, Feb. 22 and 23, by Lieut. Governor Fuller, who is the Captain of the Fuller Light Battery, Vermont N. G. :

The unwritten law of the Army is quite as important as the published provisions of tactics, in giving troops the smartness which makes up a good military appearance. Such practices and traditions as constitute this common law of the Army emphasize the requirements of tactics and regulations. For instance, the provisions of the law allow the soldier certain articles of clothing and equipment, as the coat, cap, belt and so on, which are decorated with ornaments of brass. They say but little, however, of the rotten-stone, putz-pomade, oxalic acid and alcohol which remove the tarnish of age and dampness and give them that glittering polish so essential to the man who "takes order." These things are as necessary to the soldier's neatness as the buttons are, but the regulations are silent about them.

So with tactical matters. There is a way of doing things in the Regular Service which is the result of usage and custom and which must be accepted as the proper way. The non-professional student of tactics, reading the instruction of the four exercises in the "setting up" can hardly learn from the book, the very great importance which capable Regular officers attach to that apparently insignificant instruction. As a matter of fact, there are no instructions of tactics, from the beginning to the end, that are so important in giving steadiness and soldierly bearing to the ranks as these four exercises. The distinguished author of our present system of infantry tactics attached so much importance to them that when he assumed command of his regiment, the 4th Artillery, at the Presidio of San Francisco, on his promotion to the colonelcy in 1880, he required every battery to be carefully instructed in them, under his personal supervision, and to the day of his untimely death, required all company drills to be begun and ended with them. Great importance is attached to them in all European armies. In the Swedish, Norwegian and Danish armies the exercises are more varied than they are in the German Army, whose system corresponds with ours, which was taken from the German system. It is the setting up that makes the soldierly battalion and eliminates the projecting belly, hollow chest, straddling heels and insecure position on the feet and fixes the wandering attention.

MANAGEMENT OF LIGHT BATTERIES.

Turning now to light battery matters, particularly, the manual of the piece should be executed at a jump all round. Commands should be given in a sharp tone, the one of execution higher and sharper than that of preparation. This has more to do with quick and soldierly work than most of us think it has. Slovenly commands will be followed by slovenly motions, the quick, nervy command by similar action.

Discrimination should be used in assigning the cannoners to their functions. Your number one should be about five feet eight or nine inches high, and weigh from 160 to 170 lbs., and be quick and muscular. In sponging out he should extend the right arm well out toward the rammer head and send the sponge home by one stroke, if possible. Too much emphasis cannot be placed on the necessity of his constant alertness in seeing that the vent is kept closed in loading. Number two should be of corresponding height and weight. Number three should not be less than five feet seven inches tall, so that, in serving vent, he can lean somewhat to his left, to let the gunner easily get the general direction under his arm. Number four should be a steady man, in every way, with no tendency to nervous excitement.

Number five requires no special qualifications, except that he should be strong enough physically to do his share of lifting in mechanical manoeuvres.

Number six should have intelligence and careful instruction in preparing ammunition, and number seven should have the qualifications of number six.

In going through their work at the breech, in loading, numbers three and four should distinctly spring, and not simply step in and out to and from the stock. The non-observance of this rule mars the work of an otherwise good detachment. In mounting on the ammunition chests, the cannoners should practice quickness and springiness of action, and in marching in review or on parade should sit up straight from the hips with knees and heels closed. One leg should not be crossed over the other. Eyes should be wide open and looking generally to the front, chin drawn slightly in, arms folded. This is another matter that tells on the military appearance of a battery.

The man who fails to put weight and muscle into his work at mechanical manoeuvres is the one who usually gets hurt when accidents occur. The falling gun goes in the direction of least resistance.

In changing either wheel with the spare wheel, number six can catch the knack of running the spare wheel to its place near the disabled wheel with a little practice. Hold it up straight and start it forward in the right direction smartly, then keep it rolling by slapping the broad surface of the tire from the rear. It is easily stopped by using both hands. This should be practiced during rests.

When the piece is to be dismounted, it can be done more easily if numbers three and four push against a convenient spoke of the wheel with their right and left hands, respectively, after the trail has

been raised and the muzzle has touched the ground. To this end the wheels should not be chocked in front and level ground should be selected for the exercise.

In mounting the piece, the gunner's handspike should be placed so far in rear of the trunnions as to cause the piece at the muzzle to touch the ground on a slight pressure; thereby giving a little preponderance to the part in front of the handspike. This makes the lifting somewhat easier by giving the handspike a better purchase.

In dismounting the carriage and limber the numbers who lower them to the ground should not let them drop, but ease away carefully, and those who take off the wheels should let them down in the same way—not "pottering" over it, but doing it expeditiously as well as carefully.

In carrying the piece it will be found that the prolonge as issued by the Ordnance Department is only 18 feet instead of 24 feet long, as it should be, so that it is almost impossible to sling the piece well. With the 24-foot rope it can be securely done.

In the "school of the battery" when forming "right front into battery," from column of platoons, marching at a trot, the chief of the leading platoon does not command "walk, march," as in forming line under the same circumstances, but continues moving his platoon at a trot and commands "in battery" when his platoon has advanced 15 yards, and "march" when the pieces have advanced 17 yards.

In changing front forward on right or left piece, it is better to put the platoon on the marching flank into position by the command "action, front," as by going "in battery, march," it will for a moment neutralize the fire of the nearest gun in the pivotal platoon. There is a diversity of practice in this respect among light batteries in the Army—some doing it one way some the other.

Many movements in mounted drill may be very greatly improved if the chiefs of the platoons and sections in riding to their posts in the front rank of carriages, guide themselves habitually on the right chief of section—as in reversing and executing the about in line or in column of platoons, or in forming line to the rear by "limber rear, caissons reverse, pieces forward, march," and other such movements. By doing this, they move forward together instead of going irregularly. The chief of the right section should not quit the new rear carriage in reversing until it has completed its reverse. He should then ride to his new post and the others move simultaneously with him.

At the command "in battery, march," the chiefs of section should pay very particular attention to aligning themselves carefully to the left on the left guide and giving the command "action" in time to add "rear," so that when the piece comes to a halt, the muzzles will be in line with the heads of the horses of the chiefs of section. This secures quick alignment.

When the battery mounted is marching on the road, on parade, or in review, and at mounted drill, the rear carriages should be guided accurately on those in front, so that the wheels of the carriages in front and of those in rear make but one track. In order to do this, the drivers should ride in such manner that the lead driver of the first carriage in rear of the leading carriage can see the wheel driver of that carriage and not its lead driver. The wheel driver should ride so that he can see his lead driver and no others in front of him, and so to the rear of the column. Where the roads are difficult this habit economizes the strength of horses considerably.

NATIONAL GUARD BATTERIES.

One of the principal causes of criticism of some of the batteries of the National Guard and Volunteer Militia of the States is the indifferent care which is manifest from the appearance of the guns, harness and equipments. If the guns are the old 12-pounder bronzes, they should be well polished. The carriages should be painted and kept habitually clear of mud, and the harness should be well blacked and clean. The bits and buckles should be bright. Cleanliness in these respects not only wonderfully improves the appearance of a battery, but preserves the material from injury. The whole should be free from rust.

Whenever it is practicable the assignments to permanent duty of privates should be made with a view of making drivers of those men who own or can secure the use of horses, horse equipments and the harness for practice, whenever convenient. If the battery be recruited from neighboring towns, the sections and platoons should be organized in such a way as to make it possible for the drivers to meet occasionally for such practice. It should include instruction in the School of the Soldier, mounted, Mounted Gymnastics, as practiced at the Military Academy at West Point, and the School of the Driver. The men should be taught mounting and dismounting their horses at the halt, walk, trot and gallop, the horses equipped with blankets, surcingle and watering bridle. They should also be exercised in saddling, bridling and harnessing.

When the battery is manoeuvred by trumpet signals, the movement ordered is begun shortly as possible at the last note of the signal. So when the drivers or cannoners or both are mounted or dismounted, the men should wait until the last note of the signal, and mount or dismount then.

The subject of an increased quantity of field work for the National Guard may lead to some changes in the summer work of the troops this year. The writer begs leave to suggest very briefly his views on the best use of the time that can be allowed the Fuller Light Battery next summer. Practice marches or marches of instruction, as they were called, occupied the time of all the Regular troops in the Department of Dakota that were able to get out last year. They were designed to teach the troops that most important lesson of taking proper care of themselves on a campaign. They had practical work in making and breaking camp, marching and other things which the soldier learns only from experience. If part of your time, say three days going to and three from the place of the encampment, were used in a march of instruction, it would give you six days of valuable experience in these matters and if you would live on the "ration" and have it cooked by one or two of your number in a battery mess, it would give you further valuable instruction. Some provision should be made for target practice with shot and shell, either during the march or at the encampment, if a safe range can be found.

THE ARMY AND THE NATIONAL GUARD.

HOW THEY CAN AID EACH OTHER.

The last meeting of the Canteen on Saturday evening, March 10, was occupied with the reading and discussion of an admirable paper by General Geo. W. Wingate on the subject of "How the Army and the National Guard can best aid each other." Gen. Wingate said:

The question of how the two bodies upon whom the country must first rely for its defence in time of war can aid each other in carrying out the purpose for which each is organized, is one which merits the most careful consideration.

On the one hand, we have a force of carefully trained professional soldiers, men who have devoted their lives to the study of a particular science, keeping "their talents hid in a napkin" and spending their lives in treading a dreary round of routine in training a handful of used in company duties. On the other, we have a large force of bright, enthusiastic citizens, who without systematic training and without skilled instruction are endeavoring from patriotism and sheer love of the military art to make themselves soldiers. Both are sworn to perform the same duties, both are equally liable to be called into service in case of an emergency, it is from both that the officers are to come that are to drill and train the volunteers that are to protect the nation in case of war, and both, it is feared, will be found more or less wanting in the hour of trial, the Regular soldier from want of practice, the National Guardsman from want of proper instruction.

Is there any good reason why something should not be done to bring together these two branches of one Military Service and to make the one help the other?

There is undoubtedly a deeply grounded sentiment against placing the militia of the States under the control of the Army authorities. It is strongest among those who have nothing to do with either. But it exists and must be recognized and avoided like any other disagreeable obstacle to improvement.

This feeling has already cropped out in connection with the proposed so-called "autumnal manoeuvres," and we frequently hear objections to the command of detachments of the National Guard being turned over to Army officers, even for purposes of instruction.

But are there not many ways where the National Guard of the various States may receive substantial benefit from the professional skill of Army officers, without giving any foundation for these objections? If so, why should they not be sought out and followed?

It is true that there are some officers of the National Guard, men too, of long experience and high rank who are opposed to innovation. Their organizations are doing well enough, in their opinion, and they want them to be left alone. Their ideal is a perfect street parade, and their bible, the tactics. Beyond this they have no ideas in military matters and they regard with holy horror anything that looks like converting the National Guard into anything like Regulars—in other words, into soldiers. What they attempt, they do very well, but they want no "new departures" which might find them deficient, or not superior to those officers and organizations they can now surpass.

So, too, there are Army officers of a similar calibre, who regard the National Guard as an alien organization, a sort of caricature upon a military body and want to have nothing to do with it.

Oftentimes it may be said of these that their ideas have become stagnated and that beyond the ordinary routine of duty they would be greatly puzzled if they should be called upon to instruct the officers they contempt.

But during the past 10 years many of the officers of the two organizations, the Army and the citizen soldiers, have been gradually drawing nearer. By degrees the barriers of prejudice have been largely removed. As the engineers in opposite ends of a great tunnel hear the picks and hammers of their comrades who are working to meet them and occasionally see a gleam of light where the heading has been penetrated, so we can discern the gradual approach towards each other of the leading minds of the Army and the National Guard and see where they have already practically united for mutual advantage.

Thus, during the past year nearly every State in the Union that possesses an organized militia has had a State camp. In every such camp there has been a Regular officer detailed at the request of the Governor of the State, to aid by his advice and criticism in making the camp successful. This officer has always been welcome and whenever he has shown sufficient interest to make suggestions they have been eagerly adopted and his criticisms have been recognized as most valuable.

He never has attempted to assume any "command." But if his advice was asked in regard to any matter upon which he, as a professional, knew more than one who was not, he gave it, and it was followed, perhaps more implicitly than a command would have been. This was strikingly shown during the march and particularly during the encampment of the 22d New York at Peekskill during the past summer. No one who saw Capt. Knight of the Engineers guiding and directing the companies of that regiment in building earthworks and saw the rank and file volunteering to do this work in the blazing sun, at a time when they were excused from duty, would ever again be troubled with the idea of there being any difficulty in having National Guardsmen "submit to the supervision of a Regular."

This idea may, therefore, be treated as exploded, and we may confine ourselves to considering what is the best way and the greatest number of ways in which the Army can help the National Guard. For this purpose, it can do no harm if we look abroad and see what other English speaking nations are doing.

In England, Scotland, Wales, and I think Canada, the Adjutant of a Volunteer regiment is always a Regular officer (usually a Captain) detailed for this purpose for a term of five years. He gives his entire time to the duties, thus saving the regimental commander and the other officers from much of the expenditure of time which is here required of them and which falls so heavily upon a business man. He instructs the young officers, and the non-commissioned officers, and generally supplements by his

practical experience the mere book knowledge of the citizen officer. He frequently drills the battalion, and also directs the instruction of the recruits and supervises the rifle practice—the duties of an English Adjutant being more extensive than of an Adjutant in this country.

DETAILING REGULAR OFFICERS TO MILITIA DUTY.

Is there any reason why, at least during the winter, when the officers of the Army have but little to occupy their time, such an officer could not be detailed to help the over-worked Colonels of some of our National Guard regiments? In the case of battalions composed of detached companies he would be invaluable, as he could keep up a direct supervision which is now impossible for the most active commander. Of course it would be a terrible innovation. Perhaps regimental pride in our crack organizations would be in a blaze at the idea "that they could not produce a competent adjutant." But I feel confident that if they were once to make the experiment they would never have any other, and that in less than a year their example would be followed by all other organizations who could secure such an assistant.

But this is upon the understanding that the officers detailed should be competent, zealous and adaptable, definitions which I fear do not include every regular officer. Of course, if the officer detailed should be indifferent, or supercilious, the experiment would be a failure.

In the things that a good National Guard officer pretends to know anything about it will be an exceptional Regular who can teach him much. In the manual and the ordinary drill, perhaps, he is from his greater experience with a more intelligent class of men and with large bodies of troops the best informed of the two, unless the Regular is fresh from West Point. But in matters of technical knowledge outside the tactics he knows nothing and does not pretend to, but is anxious to learn all that he can if he can find any one to teach him. The officers, therefore, who would take hold of such a position in a proper spirit, would find their efforts fully appreciated.

The military advantages to the officers detailed to perform this duty would be great. They would find themselves compelled, for the honor of their cloth, to brush up their tactics and recall their West Point instruction. The duty also would take them outside the somewhat "close corporation" of Army life and enable them to learn the method of thoughts and habits of the citizen soldiers they would be required to handle in time of war. Grant, Sherman and the other Regular officers who had spent some years among the people before the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion, found their views broadened and their efficiency increased by their experience.

Such a plan would also help the Army by giving its friends among the public who would stand by them in legislative matters, giving them a voice which they need but are now without. I am inclined to the belief that this is a matter which requires no particular legislation. That if a request should be made by the Governor of any State on the application of a regimental or brigade commander a detail could be made. Who will be the first to try the experiment?

The special knowledge of Army officers might also be utilized with advantage as lecturers, examiners and inspectors to the National Guard organizations which are near their quarters. Lectures, as a rule, are rather dry and are apt to be uninteresting. But it would not be difficult for a bright commanding officer to devise a set of practical questions upon simple military subjects, such as how to march, camp, throw up a rifle pit, attack a barricade, etc., and submit them to the officers of his different companies and then require them to discuss them under the supervision and correction of a Regular officer. Anything of that kind would be interesting enough, and would be most instructive. It would also be of value in extending the range of thought of our National Guard officers; teaching them to reflect upon matters outside the tactics.

If anything in the nature of a military school for the National Guard should ever be established in a project which I have earnestly advocated for years, it goes without saying that Regulars will be needed for the positions. As examiners, Regulars would be impartial and thorough. They could also be used as inspectors to advantage. This, however, would require them to have become familiar with National Guard ways, as its standard in time of peace must always be somewhat different from that of a regular force.

In England, any volunteer officer may present himself at the Boards detailed to examine Regular officers for promotion and pass his examination for any position up to lieutenant-colonel. If he passes, his name is registered in the official list and he is entitled to affix to it certain letters indicating the certificate he has received, which indicate that he is competent to hold the corresponding position in the Army. The number of volunteer officers that have passed this examination is great and the desire to obtain the honor so general that a number of retired officers make it a business to prepare candidates for the examination. Why cannot the same course be adopted here?

It would not be a difficult thing to provide for an examination at Governor's Island for instance, once or twice a year, which should be open to all officers of the National Guard. I would also throw it open to all non-commissioned officers, as there are many ambitious young men among the latter who would be glad to demonstrate their military ability, feeling that a certificate would insure a speedy promotion.

If the list of subjects to be covered by the examination was announced and the books defined which ought to be studied, there can be but little doubt that the number of applicants for the honor of the certificate would be as great here as has been found to be the case in Great Britain.

It will undoubtedly be urged that the necessary officers cannot be spared from the Army to act as adjutants of the many militia regiments, but I confess I fail to see how, if an officer can be detailed as an instructor to a college to give the few boys who choose to attend drill a smattering of military instruction, an organization of hundreds of men who are anxious to learn to be soldiers are not more entitled to claim his services.

SKELETON CAMP FOR OFFICERS AND N. G. OFFICERS

Another method that occurs to me as being within

our reach and to be practicable is to establish a skeleton camp for officers and non-commissioned officers, say on Governor's Island on certain days in the week during the spring, commencing after business hours and lasting through the evening and early in the morning, and supervised by Regular officers. The great difficulty in a State camp is that the officers need all the time to learn their duties and are only becoming fit to instruct their men when they are coming away. In a camp of this kind such officers before going into camp with their own regiments or companies might be instructed in Army customs and receive practical lessons what to do with their own men so as to fit them for instructors, when in command.

Short excursions, "march outs," to Creedmoor and elsewhere can also be gotten up in which the National Guard and some of the Regular companies may combine, to go a few miles into the country as if fighting their way and what is much more valuable, to prepare and discuss every detail of such an expedition beforehand, calling in some Regular officers to aid them in planning the movements and in discussing the various questions which would be likely to arise. This is one of the best and simplest things that can be done and is the way in which the proposed autumnal manoeuvres can be gradually developed. It requires no legislation, nothing in particular, but for some commanding officer to decide to attempt it and to ask the Army officers in his vicinity to co-operate. In fact, I have reason to know that one of our leading regiments of this city is now planning such an expedition.

The great wants in the National Guard are a proper standard of what should be learned, and competent instructors. We spend too much time in technicalities. We think of nothing but the tactics. The ceremony of guard mounting is regarded as a great military performance while no attention at all is paid to the duties of out posts or reconnoitering. In other words, we get our Guards together in a most elaborate manner and do not know what to do with them when we have got them assembled. Neither do we know how to feed our men, how to march them, how to supply them with ammunition, or how to fight them or take care of them if wounded.

To whom shall we turn for information upon these important subjects? The soldiers of the late war have already passed the stage of military service. Some still linger, more or less superfluous, but it will be but for a short time. To obtain the necessary knowledge from books is practically impossible. The books themselves are difficult to obtain and few in the National Guard have the necessary training to enable them to master their contents if they had them and even to those the mere book knowledge without practical experience is of but little value.

Our one resort must therefore be to the professional soldier. That it will be cheerfully granted I trust and believe. Gen. Sheridan has indicated it in his official report, and the National Guard of this and other States know from experience that whenever they have sought the aid of Army officers in any military matters it has been eagerly tendered.

Exactly how the matter should be managed cannot now well be stated. No general rule can be laid down which will fit all organizations and all situations. My own judgment is to let experience work out the best method. Let the different brigades and regiments think over the matter and select the plan they think will suit them best. Col. Austen, of the 13th, has broken the ice by a request for the detail of an officer as instructor for his regiment. Others will probably follow in different directions. A healthy and frank discussion of the subject by the Canteen, where we flatter ourselves we have collected some of the bright men of both arms of the Service, will help to stir the matter up and point out the directions that can best be improved.

If this should be the case the purpose of this paper will have been accomplished.

The reading of the paper was greeted with applause and upon its conclusion a vote of thanks was tendered Gen. Wingate. General discussion being declared in order remarks were made by Capt. E. L. Zalinski, U. S. A.; Capt. Brady, 12th N. G.; Captain Thurston, 22d N. G.; Gen. Plume, 1st Brigade, N. J. N. G., and Capt. Garland N. Whistler, 5th U. S. Art. Capt. Whistler, U. S. A., suggested that the reason why regular officers visiting the National Guard did not criticize was that they felt themselves to be guests. If detailed it would be otherwise. He called attention to the fact that every Army officer is borne upon the quota of his State and retains his citizenship in it, and suggested that if his services were required in its National Guard his Governor might ask that he be ordered to report to him and the latter might then commission him in its National Guard. Gen. Plume considered this an admirable suggestion and one which solved the difficulty.

Several other officers spoke in favor of the suggestions contained in the paper and the meeting then adjourned.

ARMS FOR SERGEANTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

MAY I be permitted to make a perhaps pertinent suggestion for the consideration of the Board of Officers appointed to make a revision of the tactics, viz.: That all sergeants of infantry should be armed with the sword instead of the rifle, and with the addition of a good revolver of an approved pattern. This would prove a most desirable and essential change.

The sergeant, as a file closer, must, if he performs his duty faithfully, look after and direct the men in his front. And as his duties, in many respects, are similar to those of lieutenants, why should he be handicapped with the rifle? More especially as there is nothing in tactics, so far as I am aware, to show that he has a right to use the arms for which, to all intents and purposes, it was designed, viz.: attack or defence.

So far as I see, sergeants acting as guides or markers could execute the movements of those positions with fully as good a result without the rifle, and with

greater celerity, not being impeded by it in their movements. It also off-sets a sergeant's authority as a non-commissioned officer and file closer.

The real difference in rank between a Lieutenant and sergeant is, that one is commissioned and wears shoulder straps while the other is non-commissioned and wears chevrons.

If anything the sergeant has greater responsibility than a Lieutenant, and, as not infrequently happens, is the better officer and brainiest of the two. The arming of sergeants with the sword would also of itself tend to give them more of the respect that is justly due them and that is so seldom accorded them. This, too, without detriment to that respect in which commissioned officers are held.

CORPORAL, 22d Regt., N. G. S. N. Y.

A little experience in actual warfare would, perhaps, change our correspondent's views of the proper arm for the non-commissioned officer. The sword is a weapon with a very short range, and travelling over a danger space of a thousand yards or more, in the face of .31 calibre bullets, spitting out from spiteful magazine guns, is somewhat trying to a man who has this gentleman's faith in a close range fight. If there is a more utterly useless weapon than the sword, for any purpose whatever, we are not acquainted with it. The hypothetical Marshal's baton which every French private is supposed to carry in his knapsack, is quite as effective.

—EDITOR.

Forty-seventh New York.—Col. E. F. Gaylor.

Companies A, E, I and G of this regiment assembled at the Armory for battalion drill on Friday evening, March 9, 1888. The first sergeants were slow in reporting; when the roll was sounded, two answered, one of the others stopped to inspect his company and finish calling his roll. There was much delay in consequence. When the first sergeant's call is sounded, every first sergeant should report at once in double time and leave the company in charge of a duty sergeant. After the equalization is ordered the sergeants who have charge of the detail should bring them up properly, which was not done—one detail went on the wrong side of the marker, the other sergeant should dress his detail from his position when he arrived on the line, and then salute the adjutant.

The line was quickly formed by Adjutant W. H. Hubbell and turned over to the instructor, Major J. G. Eddy. There were four commands of twelve files each. The men looked well—their uniforms and equipments clean. White gloves look very well on men in a dress parade, but are entirely out of place in a working drill. They impede the handling of the musket, but if they are ordered to be worn, all men should comply with the order, which was not done. The instructor ordered the ranks opened and the officers to face about, so that they could correct the mistakes that were made. At the common rear open order, there were a few men who did not look to the right at that command. Every man should comply with the latter order until the command front. The manual of arms was poorly done, many of the men slighting the motions. Evidently there were a good many men who were not thoroughly instructed, and the file closers went through the manual, which is incorrect. After the manual the ranks were closed and the command drilled in marching. In marching in columns of fours, the step was bad, the time being very irregular. When a man got the wrong step, the officers said, Change step, and nobody knew what the step was. He should call the step, then every man would know the proper step. The men did not cover, because the guides of the fours did not, and the same occurred in the file closers. The rear ranks did not keep their proper distance, and were invariably too close. Many of the men at a right shoulder rested the hammer on the shoulder; as did also some of the file closers, especially the right general guide. Columns of companies, break from the left and march to the right, was bad. Evidently the commanders of companies failed to comprehend the order, or else they did not know when to break their commands from the line. In executing left turns, the guides did not understand, as some of them remained at a right shoulder when they should come to a carry, and march in the new direction. One guide waited for his company to come around, as in a wheel. In company left into line, wheel, one of the guides wheeled with his company when he should have remained in his place until the line was dressed and the command, guides posts, was given. In marching by companies the distance was not properly kept, nor did the guides cover when the order left into line, wheel, was given, the third company could not get into their proper positions, all of which was the fault of the guides. The two movements in column of companies and forming divisions were good. In the deployments the guides were too slow in getting on the line. They should leave their company as soon as the command march is given, so as to be on the new line before the company arrive there. In marching by companies in the wheeling, some of the guides did not look to the marching flank, but marked time in their place and then gave way to the rear. In left front into line two of the companies did not keep their fours in their proper positions. In the movement, right front into line, face to the rear, some of the fours in the third company turned to the right and some to the left.

Marching in line, forward, guide centre was good, the color bearer being quick and correct in all his movements. All the movements should have been well done. As the order which directed the battalion to assemble for drill also announced the movements to be executed, those to whom it was addressed should have looked up their points in the tactics. It is not to be expected that the instructor can explain and execute the orders himself. He was very plain in his orders and the officers showed lack of attention. They should have repeated the orders to the men and prompt them in the different movements. The regiment should establish a school for non-commissioned officers and these movements should be all thoroughly gone over and when they understand them correctly there will be an improvement in battalion drill.

Twelfth New York.—Col. J. H. Jones.

COMPANIES A, D, G, I and K assembled at the armory on Monday, March 5, for battalion drill. The command was quickly formed in six companies of 12 files by the acting Adjutant, C. M. Jesup, and turned over to Lieut.-Col. H. Dowd. The command was drilled in the manual and then marched in column of fours. Forming companies and divisions and in centre forward, and the deployments were all well executed, except that some of the guides were not on the line in time to have their correct alignment before the company arrived on the line.

Col. Jones, on taking command, ordered the ranks opened and the pieces inspected. The battalion then drilled in the loading and firing, by file company and division and wing, which was well executed. In marching column of fours the file closer did not cover and in some companies there were too many of them. The excess of men not wanted in the company should be sent to their quarters.

The men paid strict attention and the drill was a success, but the guides should pay more attention to their distance in marching by companies.

(From the Evening Sun of last Tuesday.)

IT TAKES A SOLDIER TO STAND AT HIS POST.

WHILE business was paralyzed yesterday, theatres vacant, social engagements abandoned and activity generally suspended, the militia was as lively as ever.

A Lieut.-Colonel of the 69th Regiment was to be elected last night, and of the 31 officers of the regiment, 30 were present.

The thirty-first lived in Brooklyn, and he must be forgiven.

We doubt if any business yesterday could make such a showing as the 69th Regiment. It was a highly creditable performance, and the lucky nominee of the evening, Lieut.-Col. Moran, can well congratulate himself on his promotion in such an organization.

ROSTER OF COMMANDS CALLED FOR.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, S. N. Y.,
A. G. O., ALBANY, March 8.

G. O. No. 4.

I. Commanding officers of brigades, regiments and battalions will forward direct to the general inspectors of rifle practice, 8 Centies Slip, New York, on or before April 15, a list containing the full rank, name and position of each member of their respective staff on April 1, 1888.

II. Commanding officers of companies and of such batteries as may be armed with rifles will also forward in the same manner lists of their commands, containing full name and rank of each member.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,
JOSIAH PORTER, Maj. Gen. and Adj. Gen.

COMPANY DRILLS IN THE N. Y. GUARD.

Co. D, 12th Regt., Capt. Bleeker S. Barnard.—This company paraded for inspection by Col. Jones on a competitive drill on Wednesday, March 7. It had 88 men in State service uniform, the largest turnout the company has made in four years. This company was organized by Capt. Barnard, who has labored hard to make it a success. The company has been very unfortunate in lieutenants. There is no 1st lieutenant, and the 2d lieutenant is laid up with a broken arm. If at the weekly drills officers detailed were to assist the captain, it would give them good opportunity to drill in a large company. Capt. Barnard always has a large turnout for drill, and is forced to have the sergeants in command of platoons. A number of the officers of the regiment do not have a chance to drill in platoon movements because of the small number of men in their commands, and this is a chance that they could avail themselves of to advantage. The company was very thoroughly inspected and the closing and closing out to be in good condition. The inspector, Col. Jones, complimented the company on its fine appearance, and the good condition of their uniform and equipments. The company was drilled in marching, the platoons being commanded by the sergeants. The marching by fours and platoons, on right into line, forming in single rank, and right and left oblique, halt, were well executed. The loading and firing, both standing and kneeling, were good. The fire lying down was excellent, and was loudly applauded by the officers among the spectators, who were interested very much.

The company was dismissed and the competitors for a gold mounted rifle then stepped into line for drill. This musket was presented by the Remington Arms Co., and it is annually contested for. All the contestants must be privates and the winner carries it until it is won again. The judges were Capt. C. S. Burns, W. H. Kirby, W. Content and H. C. Aspinwall. As soon as a competitor made a mistake he was ordered to the rear, until finally the contest narrowed down to Thos. Wright and Chas. Montague. They were evenly matched, and it was a long while before there was any mistake. Finally Wright made an error, and the prize went to Chas. L. Montague. This competition was well appreciated by the immense audience who liberally applauded the contestants, and the final winner received an ovation of applause.

The drill squad, under the command of Sergt. Chas. J. Seiter, gave an exhibition drill in the manual of arms and the bayonet, which were fairly done. The reception then following, the immense drill room was crowded with merry dancers, and with the music by Leopold everybody enjoyed themselves. This company will encamp on the battlefield at Gettysburg on July 1, 2, 3, 1888, and will take 100 men and the drum corps.

Co. F, 11th Regt.—Lieut. R. A. Denham.—This company drilled on Thursday, March 8, under the command of the 2d lieutenant and turned out 8 files. It is a company, like most others, composed of men who are employed during the day, and they should be able to give at least one evening per week for drill. If a man cannot give sufficient time for drill he should be discharged, and the company recruited by men who are anxious to learn and who will attend to their duties. The trouble here seems to be that there is too much dead wood; the men that did drill had no snap and paid no attention to the instructor, who labored to make his orders as plain as possible, so that any man could easily understand. Some of the men seem never to have been in the squad or else forgot what was taught there. The company in drills in the manual would be benefited if they drilled by numbers, each man calling the numbers aloud. The men should hold their heads up in marching. In the manual of arms the file closers should not go through the charge bayonets. The right and left guide should remain on the line and be at a carry; as it was the right guide retired to the rear and the left guide remained at his post, but charged bayonets at that command. While the company was on the march one of the file closers roared in the rear of the company beside the left guide; he should march on a line with the last four. There was too much talking in the ranks and scraping of the feet in marching, and in marching in fours the men did not dress, nor did the guides on the left of the four cover. All the mistakes can be attributed to lack of attention or care by the men. The commands right by twos and forming fours left oblique were well done. In marching by fours—the men being at a right shoulder—when the command halt was given, some of the men came to a carry before they halted. The loading and firing were

not well done. The sergeants should not load, but retire to the rear at the command ready. After the men have loaded the instructor should not repeat the word company, between the commands, but aim, fire, load, etc., and he should have examined the pieces before loading. The men should be instructed as to the position of their feet when they fire, right at left oblique. In the marching by fours, at the command fours right, or left about, some of the men turned to the right and some to the left, and the same thing occurred in the march to the rear. In executing the latter movement all the men should turn to the right. In oblique marching, at the command halt, the men should halt before they come to a carry, and then face to the right, and every man should cover. The manual on the march was bad; the men slighted the motions and seemed too anxious to change the piece.

MILITIA ITEMS.

Lieut. H. C. Clark, formerly a lieutenant of the 18th N. Y. has been elected lieutenant colonel of the 33d Regt., 3d Brigade, N. G. S. N. Y.

The Adjutant, "Gov. Waterman has wisely determined that next Fourth of July shall be properly observed by a parade of the 3d Brigade. It is almost three years since an exhibition of the character was tendered for the enjoyment of the citizens of San Francisco."

The 13th annual dinner of the old 2d Brigade staff took place last week at the Lotus Club, N. Y. The members of the staff who sat at the table were Col. Wm. E. Van Wyck, chief of staff, who presided; Maj. Eugene M. Earle, Lieut. Col. Chas. E. Orvis, Maj. Seneca D. Fowell and Jos. Koch, Capt. Albert C. Hall, Wm. E. Webb, F. J. Allen and Andrew Gilsey.

The 8th N. Y. is ordered to assemble as follows: Non-commissioned officers of Cos. C, I, H and D for instruction in battalion movements, March 16 and 30; Cos. E, F, B and C on March 22 and April 5; division drills in marching, loading and firing, manual of arms, D and E, March 13; B and C, March 15; F and H, March 19; G and I, March 21.

Col. Austen, 18th N. Y., has, in compliance with orders from headquarters, issued an order forming a regimental ambulance corps. It will be organized by Asst. Surgeon Cookman.

The medals offered in the 2d N. Y. for armory rifle practice have been won as follows: Co. A, 1st Senior Class, G. Stewart Scott, 46; 1st Class, W. G. Kimball, 46; 2d Class, R. H. Prothingham, 41; 3d Class, B. H. Smith, 41. Co. F, 1st Class Medal, Pvt. Geo. Borr, 46; 2d Class, Pvt. Seven, 45; 3d Class, Pvt. Coss, 44. Co. H, 1st Class, Sergt. Hurles, 45; 2d Class, Pvt. J. H. Ingraham, 44; 3d Class, Lieut. Hubbard, 43.

Adj. Jas. Moran was elected Lt. Colonel of the 69th N. Y. on Monday, March 12, his opponent being Major E. Duffy. Lieut. Col. Moran joined the regiment as a private of Co. F, November, 1880; was elected 2d Lieutenant, May 3, 1875, and Adjutant, Nov. 12, 1875. The regiment will no doubt be greatly benefited by the selection.

Battalion drills in the 11th N. Y. are ordered as follows: Cos. G, H, F, I and K, on Monday, March 19 and 26, and April 9; Cos. D, E and L, on Wednesday, March 21, 28 and April 11; Cos. A, B and C, Friday, March 23 and 30, and April 13.

The 23d N. Y. will assemble for battalion drill and instruction in fatigue uniform on Monday, March 19 and 26. The Warner Institute on Broadway and Willoughby avenue has been selected by the Supervisors for the use of the regiment during the rebuilding of their old armory.

The Constantine medals for 100 per cent of drill and general attendance were presented on March 9 by Col. Willis L. Ogden (ex-Lieutenant-Colonel) of the 23d Regiment, to the following members of Co. I: Lieut. G. W. Middleton and G. F. Hamlin, Sergts. W. A. Stokes, J. P. Hardy, H. P. Hamlin and J. V. Wheeler, Corp. B. B. Shute, Jr., F. T. Perry, E. V. Howard, F. T. Cooke, D. G. Turner and F. A. Martin. Privates H. F. Barre, W. A. Becker, E. H. Benedict, E. Boucher, C. Huff, J. A. Douglas, E. H. Douglas, E. I. Fanning, R. Fordham, W. J. Holcomb, C. H. G. Jaffay, R. A. Law, W. A. Meeter, E. P. Merrill, B. A. Meyer, A. E. Mitchell, W. L. Morehouse, W. P. Penny, G. E. Pirie, J. W. Raymond, Graham Reed, F. E. Steele and J. C. Vandever.

We have received invitations to attend the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the 4th N. Y. on Thursday, March 29, 1888. The regiment will be reviewed by his Honor, the Mayor, A. C. Chapman, by Brig.-Gen. C. H. G. Jaffay, James McLen and staff. The long service medals will also be presented to such members of the regiment entitled to receive them. The affair promises to be very interesting and will be largely attended. The trip to Boston, which was to have taken place on Bunker Hill Day, June 17, has been postponed to September. Colonel Gaylor has offered a medal of honor to those men who do not miss a drill from March 25, 1888, to March 25, 1889.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The report of Col. Louis Watres, general inspector of rifle practice for the Pennsylvania N. G., shows the total number of sharpshooters to be 512; total number of marksmen, including sharpshooters, 3,076; increase over last year, 636. The 3d Brigade has the largest number of qualified marksmen and sharpshooters.

The standing was as follows:			
	Sharpshooters.	Marksmen.	Total.
1st Brigade.....	95	501	596
2d Brigade.....	84	535	619
3d Brigade.....	152	665	817

The 13th Regt. has qualified more men than any other regiment. They had 95 sharpshooters and 516 marksmen; total, 611.

200 were commissioned officer except the chaplain qualified as marksmen, and 98 out of 104 non-commissioned officers. Col. Watres met the inspectors of the regiments, composing the N. G., on Friday, March 10. It was decided that the State range should be located at the State Camp at Mount Gretna. Each company should have a range and practice on May 1. It was suggested that marksmanship should be taken into the company fare of merit with the rating, and that it would be a qualification for a commission.

The report of the Inspector General, State of Pennsylvania, for 1887, showing the percentage present at inspection of the different regiments, is as follows, the highest attainable standing being 45 points:

1. 8th Regiment.....	40.9	9. 9th Regiment.....	36.5
2. 10th ".....	40.7	10. 12th ".....	36.1
3. 12th ".....	39.5	11. 2d ".....	35.3
4. 6th ".....	39.2	12. 14th ".....	35.1
5. 5th ".....	39.0	13. 12th ".....	34.8
6. 1st ".....	38.9	14. 16th ".....	32.6
7. State Fencibles.....	33.6	15. Gray Involuntaries.....	30.0
8. 4th Regiment.....	30.8	16. 15th Regiment.....	28.2

Artillery.		Cavalry.	
Battery A.....	31	1st Troop P. L. C.....	38
Battery B.....	30	R. Sheridan Troop.....	38
Battery C.....	29		

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The following appointments and promotions in the District of Columbia militia has been made by the President since the publication of General Orders, No. 15, of Oct. 31, 1887:

1st Battalion of Infantry.—Andrew W. Kelley, 1st Lieutenant, and Q. M.
2d Battalion of Infantry.—Edward Romanzo Campbell, captain, Co. B; H. H. Burroughs, captain, D; Horace B. Durant, 2d lieutenant, D.
3d Battalion of Infantry.—Cornelius T. Dais, captain, Co. B; D. E. L. Watson, 1st lieutenant, B; W. S. Klemroth, 2d lieutenant, B.
4th Battalion of Infantry.—Thomas Martin, captain and surgeon.
5th Battalion of Infantry.—Robert Johnson, 1st lieutenant and chaplain; James H. Washington, 2d lieutenant, Co. C.
6th Battalion of Infantry.—M. Emmet Urell, captain, Co.

A, to be major; Martin M. Flannery, 2d lieutenant, Co. D, to be 1st lieutenant.
4th Battalion of Infantry.—H. Hersey Munroe, 2d lieutenant, Co. A, to be 1st lieutenant.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. E. E.—You will find the bill you refer to under head of Congress this week.

H. H.—Brentano Brothers, Union Square, New York City, may be able to furnish you a copy of the latest British Army List.

Artillery.—Should any of the artillery regiments exchange this year the 1st and 5th would doubtless be the ones to move, but it is decidedly premature to say that they will or that the plan is in contemplation.

Avalon.—Yes, Col. C. L. Best, 4th Art., will be retired for age, April 25 next, and the following promotions will then ensue: Lieut.-Col. H. W. Closson, 5th, to Colonel; 4th; Major Richard Loder, 3d, to Lieut.-Colonel; 5th; Capt. W. F. Randolph, 5th, to Major; 3d; Lieut. B. K. Roberts, to Captain, and 2d Lieut. H. C. Carbaugh, to 1st Lieutenant.

R. M. W.—The following were the Regular Army officers who acted as judges at the competitive drill at Nashville, May 24, 1887: Capt. John L. Tiernon, 3d U. S. Art.; present address, Newport Barracks, Ky.; Capt. Charles I. Davis, 10th U. S. Inf., Fort Union, N. M.; Captain (then Lieutenant), W. A. Kobbe, 3d U. S. Art., Fort Monroe, Va.; Lieut. James B. Goe, 13th U. S. Inf., Fort Wingate, N. M.; Lieut. John T. Thompson, 3d U. S. Art., Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Messrs. Fords, Howard and Hulbert have gathered into a handsome octavo volume, the "Patriotic Addresses of Henry Ward Beecher in America and England from 1850 to 1855, on Slavery, the Civil War and the Development of Civil Liberty in the United States." The book is edited by a member of the firm John R. Howard, who introduces it with a review of Mr. Beecher's personality and influence in public affairs, which is a most interesting addition to the volume. Oral addresses, however effective at the time, do not long survive the occasion which called them forth, but as a record of the history, and an illustration of the spirit, of an exciting epoch which has passed this volume has a permanent value. It contains two articles from the *Independent*, two letters on reconstruction, seventeen sermons in Plymouth Church, eight memorable addresses before British audiences and five addresses delivered in this country. Among these last is that admirable address before the Society of the Army of the Potomac at Springfield in 1878 in which Mr. Beecher showed such a thorough appreciation of all that is best in the military character. This address was received in a unique manner, the entire audience rising and saying, each for himself and all together, "I thank you." It is an address worth recalling and emphasizing on all fitting occasions. In it Mr. Beecher urged that "if it could be done, it would be a wholesome education to require every young man to spend two years of his early life in the camp under rigorous military instruction," and that every college and every large academy should give to its students the knowledge and discipline which military life requires. "But," he said at the same time, "if soldiers are to be employed at all in aid of civil administration, the trained soldiers of the Federal Army, under regular officers, are in every way better than militia, be they ever so good. Since the foundation of the Government, I challenge the production of a single mischief making military man. If any names are recalled of generals who have been rash and dangerous, in every instance they will be found to be extemporized generals, made out of professional politicians. Officers and soldiers are the very men who are above all others friends of peace. Caucus and Congress are bellicose; the Army it is that is the national peace society." Speaking of the Military Academy, Mr. Beecher said: "What university, what college, what theological seminary can point to its two thousand graduates and say 'there has never been an instance of dishonesty in the administration of public money?' The only institution in this country that can say this is the Academy." After dwelling upon the services of the Army, Mr. Beecher said: "All this it has done while assailed in the rear by bounding politicians, who care nothing for its honor, who would retrench its numbers, diminish its revenues and make hard and bitter the lives of men who have served their country at pains and perils which would have appalled the stoutest heart of the self-denying heroes of Caucus and Congress."

Messrs. H. S. Crocker and Co., of San Francisco, publish a Volume of Records of Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, with a complete account of the 30th National Encampment and a chronological summary of the important events of the Civil War. It is edited by Wm. H. Ward, and contains brief biographies of over 800 members of the Grand Army. In addition we have a report of the proceedings at the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac which was held in San Francisco in August, 1887. This was a most interesting occasion, and the record of it is well worthy of preservation. The biographies are many of them of interest only to their subjects. They include the personal history of many worthy gentlemen whose military service during the War was limited to provost guard and similar duty in the perilous precincts of San Francisco and its vicinity.

The *Carte de la Répartition et de l'Emplacement des Troupes de l'Armée Française* (H. Le Boulanger, Paris) shows at a glance the military subdivisions of France, each surrounded by a red line on the map, the *corps d'armée* that are assigned to them, their headquarters and garrisons—the latter with the regiments stationed there—and their camps, military schools, etc. There is also an index showing the regiments of the active and territorial armies in numerical order, with the names of their commanders, their local stations, and the several army corps to which they belong.

Chaplain J. J. Kane, U. S. N., who has just returned to the United States from a cruise on the U. S. flag-ship *Pennacola* on the European station, has written a war story, which embraces a period of 40 years. It treats of life in the Federal Navy; also of experiences of the hero of the book in the Confederate Army, describing the battles of New Orleans, Mobile Bay and of Fort Fisher. The story is entitled "Illian, or the Curse of the Old South Church."

Mr. Fred F. Nugent, who is a son of Gen. Robt. Nugent, U. S. A., retired, has prepared, and the American Surety Co. has published, a Synopsis of the Acts of Parliament from 1845 to 1887, relating to Fidelity Insurance, added to which are decisions of the English Courts, with comments

by Mr. Nugent. Accompanying this work is a companion volume giving "A Compendium of the Laws of Corporate Suretyship," etc., in force in various States.

Among the articles in the "Magazine of American History" for March are: "Historic Cannon Balls and Houses—The British Invasion of Connecticut in 1777," by Col. Clifford A. H. Bartlett; "Central Ohio Seventy Years Ago," by Gen. Alfred E. Lee; and the "Escape of Grant and Meade," by Lieut.-Gov. R. S. Robertson, of Indiana. The Hon. Alexander Hamilton writes about his portrait of Washington.

GERMAN WAR PREPARATIONS.

"L'Avenir Militaire" gives some interesting details respecting the present German War Office activity, saying: "The Germans are losing no time, and the Emperor has signed most of the official authorizations requisite for putting in force the New Army bill. Already in the factories of Nuremberg and elsewhere the uniforms of the Landstrum are being made. Each day is taken up with the registration of soldiers, not recruits only, but veterans who have served and are fit to serve again. The wonderful military instinct of Prussia has ever been to hurl upon the battle field such overwhelming masses of men at a given moment as would compel, as it were, victory under any circumstances; and, in the same fashion, the great political aim of these said Prussians has been to show their strength in such a manner that their neighbors may say, 'It is better to be friends than enemies of these fellows! Let us therefore be their allies—even their vassals—it is the safest course!'" And thus, without the sound of a single shot, the Iron Chancellor, splendidly seconded by his admirable Berlin staff, has brought to the Prussian standards all the petty German States to unite in a formidable host of soldiers, backed up by two millions of Austro-Hungarians, one million of Italians, without counting certain thousands of Bulgarians, Roumanians, and perhaps Servians. They commence to talk of Spaniards, but there we draw the line, for we can scarcely imagine the brave and haughty Castilian suffering himself to be drilled under some 'General Staff'!"

THE FRENCH ARMY.

It is proposed to revive the fourth battalion for the French line regiments, attaching it to each auxiliary territorial corps, whilst the adjuncts of a fifth, sixth, and even additional battalions are under consideration for strengthening the same force where the extent of the military district and numbers of the male population warrant the increase. There are already some Army corps where the new measure is in progress, and others in which the renewed plan is almost fully applied, but the chief difficulty, it is found, rests with obtaining an adequate supply of efficient staff and non-commissioned officers. Nevertheless, recent circulars to district commandants enjoin the immediate adoption of proper measures to perfect the intended reorganization.

France has voted \$157,898,400 for the reconstruction of the materiel, etc., of her Army. Of this sum \$237,314,800 is for artillery, of which \$89,907,200 is for reconstruction, as follows: Field batteries, \$28,084,200; fortress artillery, \$46,001,600; coast defence, \$9,297,400; depots, \$200,000; central administration, \$40,000.

Most of the older Generals and field officers of the German Army, says a despatch, many of whom were friends and comrades in arms of the late Emperor, who refused to sanction their retirement, will soon be put upon the retired list.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE "Avenir Militaire" (Paris) states that, in the event of war in 1888 or 1889, the greater part of the Austrian Army would still be armed with the Werndl rifle. About six divisions would carry the 11-millimetre Mannlicher repeating rifle.

TO EACH German Army Corps is to be attached five experts who will be called upon annually in each January to consult with the Intendance Department respecting all supplies in cases of mobilization. Three of them will belong to agricultural pursuits, and two to commerce.

THE series of trials extending over some two years, which Mr. Nordenfeldt has carried out with two of his submarine torpedo boats, in Turkish waters, before a Commission composed of naval and scientific officers, have been concluded. During them a torpedo was discharged from a vessel completely submerged.

THE 57th annual report of the British Royal United Service Institution shows that the losses by death and retirement during last year more than counterbalanced the accessions, owing, probably, as the Council points out, to the uncertainty which has for some time hung over the position of the Institution, which is compelled to seek new quarters.

M. ADELIN DE FAIR GUIMAROS, a Portuguese gentleman who evidently does not believe in "villainous salt-petre," has invented a new rifle which by means of a series of powerful springs throws a projectile to considerable distances. He calls it the "Archimedes," probably because its bearer will share the fate of Archimedes who was killed by a Roman soldier at the siege of Syracuse.

ALL the garrisons within the limits of the 7th Army Corps (Lower Rhine and Westphalia) have now been provided with large samples of the new article of food which is in future to form the so-called "iron ration" of the men in the field. It is a peculiar kind of bread in the shape of small cubes the size of a chocolate drop, made of fine wheat bread, strongly spiced and calculated to keep for a long time. When taken into the mouth it quickly softens, and is both palatable and nutritious. It is chiefly intended for forced marches when there is no time for camping and cooking.—Berlin Tageblatt.

THE United Service Gazette says: "Sir Edward Reed has obtained a return of the casualties to a torpedo boat flotilla during a series of experimental tests in the Channel in May last. They extended over a fortnight, and it is not assuring to read that 'scarcely a day passed without some casualty to one or other of the 24 boats engaged.' On May 12 last a trial of the steaming of the whole flotilla took place, and upon that occasion no fewer than one-third came to grief in one way or another. In four cases the machinery became so disabled that the boats failed to proceed, and had to be towed ignominiously into harbor. In a fifth case the top of the feed pump was blown off, and in another the fan engine, which furnished the necessary supply of air, was broken. These vessels were all repaired and enabled to join the others before the conclusion of the experiments; yet it is noteworthy that some of them broke down a second time. During the progress of the trials, part of the machinery of one of the boats gave way, the compartment became filled with steam, and three men therein engaged were so scalded that they ultimately died. These facts are little reassuring to the British taxpayer and to the

nation at large. In a future naval war, should we have as much to fear from our own side as from that of the enemy? Are our boats sufficiently strong, and have we sacrificed too much to speed?"

THE first show of thoroughbred horses for the five premiums of £200 each, offered by the Royal Agricultural Society, and the 22 Queen's premiums of like amount given by the English Government on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, was held recently at Nottingham. With reference to this *Broad Arrow* says: "The show attracted a large number of entries—in fact the largest ever known, but an enormous majority of the animals were rejected from competition as being unsound, while the number of weeds and stallions utterly useless for breeding purposes evidenced the painful truth so repeatedly urged in these columns, that we are living upon our past reputation, and have allowed foreign purchasers to carry away the choicest of our blood stock."

TORPEDOES AND TORPEDO BOATS.

THE *Engineer* says: "The Resistance experiment demonstrated that even a charge of 100 lb. of explosive was not irresistible, and general opinion seems to be in favor of 150 lb. or 200 lb. in future Whiteheads. This must entail a larger weapon, and there seems no reason why we should not have such for certain vessels on the same reasoning that we arm an ironclad with a 100-ton gun and a cruiser with one weighing 5 tons. The amount of explosive required to disable a corvette would have little effect against certain portions of the under-water hull of a first class battle-ship. Controlled locomotive torpedoes are at present in the same category as submarine boats—scientific playthings, which contain the elements of an excellent principle that cannot be carried out in practice. In submarine boats it is becoming evident that the power of submergence is not the most valuable quality, and that the normal condition must be on the surface with as near as possible an approach to invisibility. The controlled locomotive torpedo, on the other hand, must, to have any practical value, be made more clearly visible to the operators, and thus lose the characteristic which, according to most people, is essential to its success."

Engineering says: "The facts we have placed before our readers possess special interest at present, because almost every Government in the world claiming to be a naval power is considering the advisability of adopting the submarine system. The United States Government has, we understand, decided in favor of Nordenfeldt boats, as a permanent arm, and is carrying its decision into practice (sic.) The Spanish Government has voted large sums of money for the carrying out of such experiments as will enable its experts to determine the extent to which the new naval arm shall be adopted; French naval men are busy at their arsenals in exhaustively examining the same subject with the same purpose; Russia already possesses a fleet of submarine boats, and still takes the deepest and most lively interest in the question, sending officers of the highest position and distinction to report to her naval authorities on such trials and demonstrations as have taken place; the Greeks already have a submarine department, and carry out experiments with one of the first and earliest of the Nordenfeldt boats; the English Government is actively contemplating the establishment of a department of submarine torpedo boats in that portion of its services which has the care and control of its coast defences. As much may be said of Austria, Italy, Brazil, Japan."

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THE BRITISH 9.2-INCH GUNS.

In Parliament, Major Rasch asked the Secretary of State for War what proportion of the 9.2-inch guns had failed, who made them, and whether any more were being constructed of the same pattern. Mr. Stanhope said: Twenty-seven 9.2-inch guns have now been proved, of which, if cracking the liner be regarded as failure, five have failed on proof. The guns which cracked their liners were all made in the Royal Gun Factories, but the liners were obtained by contract, and as all which cracked were from one maker, while none made elsewhere cracked, the presumption arises that some peculiarity in the steel may account for the result. The pattern has, however, been altered with regard to the fitting in of the liner.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN ARMY.

NEGOTIATIONS are proceeding between the Austrian and Hungarian Governments with the object of effecting a considerable increase in the strength of the national defences. The military law, which expires at the end of next year, fixes the establishment of the Army, exclusive of both the Austrian and Hungarian Landwehr, at 800,000 men. The two Governments now contemplate raising the effective to a strength proportionate to that of Germany. The existing Army organization dates from the year 1868, and is based on a compromise arrived at between Austria and Hungary, having only been modified, in some respects, by a law passed in 1882. Austria-Hungary having thus remained behind other Powers in regard to military organization, it is intended to make a thorough and extensive reform of the Army, whereby Austria would be placed on an equal footing, as a Military Power, with Germany and France.

CAVALRY OF RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

In case of war, cavalry, beyond all doubt, will play a more than ever important role on either side of the Russo-German contest. 910 Russian squadrons, with an average of 5 officers and 180 sabres each, are now echeloned along the Austrian and German frontiers, but in a few weeks, by moving up the reserves from the depots, Russia can place in line a total of 1,400 squadrons, giving an effective of 6,000 officers, 211,000 sabres, 19,000 non-combatants, and 212 horses, including 15,000 draught animals.

The German Army is much weaker in cavalry, counting on its war footing but 600 squadrons, making 3,300 officers and 112,000 sabres (exclusive of non-combatants); while that of Austria-Hungary is less numerous than the German force. In fact, Russia alone, by calling upon her cavalry in Asia, can at once place in line of battle a cavalry force equal to that of Germany and Austria-Hungary combined.

In infantry and artillery the Austria-German armies are far superior to Russia.

In Germany 14 depots supply 6,400 horses annually to the cavalry.—*Broad Arrow*.

MOLTKE AND BISMARCK.

A YOUNG lady, says *Das Deutsches Tageblatt*, having asked Moltke and Bismarck to favor her with a few words in her album the former wrote:

Lüge vergeht, Wahrheit besteht.

V. MOLTKE, Feldmarschall.

To which the Chancellor at once added:

Wohl weiss ich, dass in jener Welt

Die Wahrheit stets den Sieg behält:

Doch gegen Lüge dieses Lebens

Kämpft ein Feldmarschall selbst vergebens.

V. BISMARCK, Reichskanzler.

These lines may prove worthy of preservation in our old friend *Notes and Queries*, where they are "Englished" as follows:

Lies pass away, truth lives for aye.

Bismarck's:

In yonder world, full well I know

Truth will at last the victory gain;

But 'gainst the lies told here below

A marshal's own light in vain.

LIES AND LIARS.

EVERYBODY hates lies of course, but it cannot be denied that liars are usually very pleasant people. St. Simon, who was one of the keenest observers of human nature that ever lived, points out in his famous memoirs that a liar is not necessarily a false man, and all experience confirms the statement. Sir Charles Napier in his *Sind Journals* hits off exactly this type of character, which always seems to me one of the most delightful one can meet. "Colonel P. is as brave as a lion and has all the quaint humor of Munchausen," says Sir Charles.

"For instance," he said to Mrs. Mackenzie, "Madam, at the battle of Meeanee, I perpetrated such destruction that Sir Charles Napier rode up to me and said, 'Colonel P., give up your sword. I cannot permit such slaughter, even on an enemy.' I did deliver up my sword, but continued to do just as much execution with the scabbard." On one occasion he gravely assured an audience, that having made the 5th Cavalry sharpen their swords, he suddenly gave the order "carry swords!" and in one instant the whole place ran with blood, every trooper having cut off his own right ear—so eager were the poor fellows to obey my orders. It was a sad accident!" "Such is old P.," concludes Napier, "but as I said before, brave as a lion." Be it noted that in the above Sir Charles makes use of a very happy expression. It is much better to say of a gallant old

warrior like Colonel P. that he has "all the quaint humor of Munchausen," than to apply to him an epithet that has got itself inextricably mixed up with Ananias and his descendants. Doubtless Colonel P. was as true as steel. But he had that one little weakness.—*The Times of India*.

NAVIES OF ITALY AND FRANCE.

THE Italian Minister of Marine has assigned \$5,000,000 for fitting out the first-class vessels *Morotini*, *Doria*, *King Umberto*, and the second class *Montebello*, *Mengranbasso*, *Confidenza*, *Volturno* and *Cortatone*. Two vessels of the first class, the *Stiolla* and *Sardegna*, and two armor-plated second class, are to be constructed. Also four vessels of the third class, called torpedo cruisers; two of the third class torpedo boats for the high seas and the coast, and subsidiary vessels, of which one is for local use. There will be laid down an armor-plated vessel of the second class, four torpedo cruisers, several despatch boats, torpedo boats, and minor vessels. \$300,000 are set apart for the fortifications at Magdalen, and the navy will be increased to the number of 18,307 men.

The naval preparations in Italy are looked upon with some apprehension in France, where it is said that orders have been given to get ready for sea all the ships lying at Naples, Genoa, Spezia, Leghorn, and Magdalen, while the "defensive works" of the said ports are being pushed forward with the greatest rapidity. Then 100 vessels of the merchant marine are to be inspected, to see if they can be turned into cruisers.

According to a recent report, the French navy consists of 380 vessels of all kinds, made up as follows: 18 first class ironclads, 11 armored cruisers, 1 ironclad floating battery, 9 battery cruisers, 9 first class cruisers, 11 second class cruisers, 15 third class cruisers, 15 first class despatch boats, 31 second class despatch boats, 18 despatch boats, also available as transports, 8 despatch boats available as torpedo vessels, 16 unarmored gunboats, 13 launches, each carrying a gun, 11 steam launches, 10 seagoing torpedo boats, 62 first class torpedo boats, 41 second class torpedo boats, 7 vedette torpedo boats, 10 first class transports, 10 second class transports, 4 third class transports, 13 sailing ships, 29 ships used for fishery protection, and 3 training ships.

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THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

AUSTRALIA celebrates the centenary of her settlement by a grand International Exhibition at Melbourne, commencing August 1st next, and continuing for six months. Congress has appropriated \$50,000, will appoint commissioners to represent the United States, and it is hoped that very many private firms will make exhibits. The government of Victoria controls the exhibition and gives space and steam for motive power free. The exhibition building and annexes will cover twenty-four acres of ground, and the display, both local and from foreign countries, will be the largest ever seen in the southern hemisphere. Goods for exhibition are admitted duty free. Australia is a rich and growing country. American goods sell well there, and the comparative nearness of Australia to America should inspire our business men to control her markets. Mr. John M. Ives, who for the past three years has been in the antipodes as manager for the well known Safe Cure House of H. H. Warner & Co., has just returned with letters from the chief secretary and commissioners; also blank applications for space, which he will be pleased to send free on application to him at Rochester, N. Y. Applications should be made at once, as goods must be in position not later than July first next.

VELOCITY OF THE SOUND OF FIREARMS.

MANY experiments have proved that the velocity of sound, obtained by observing from a known distance the instant of the discharge of a rifle and the arrival of the sound of the detonation at the place of observation, is frequently greatly in excess of the normal rate of propagation. To determine the cause of this increase and the laws which govern it, series of experiments have recently been carried out by M. Journee, who has presented a memoir on the subject to the Academie des Sciences. His experiments show that if a bullet is fired from a rifle against a plate of cast iron, then so long as the velocity of the bullet is in excess of the normal velocity of sound through air, the noise of the detonation and of the bullet striking the plate reach an observer situated in the plane of fire behind the plate at the same instant. If the distance of the plate from the rifle is increased till the velocity of the bullet before reaching it is reduced below that of

sound, then the noise of the detonation reaches an observer before that of the shock against the plate. Hence the author concludes that the bullet, so long as its velocity is greater than the normal velocity of sound, is the seat of sonorous disturbance, resembling in character that due to an explosion, and this view he has substantiated by further experiments.—*Engineering.*

A STORY is told of an English Captain of Volunteers, who was wending his way to an adjoining club after being dismissed from parade. It being dusk, the sentry naturally did as sentries do under those circumstances. This did not satisfy the gallant Captain, who forthwith despatched a club waiter to the sentry to ask why he had not saluted. The sentry's answer was to the point, but hardly reproducible. The Captain regrets now that he ever took any notice of the matter.

BIRTHS.

HUGHES.—At Fort Leavenworth, Kas. Feb. 28, to the wife of Lieutenant W. N. Hughes, 18th U. S. Infantry.

OWEN.—At Plattsburgh Barracks, N. Y. March 9, to the wife of Assistant Surgeon W. O. Owen, Jr., U. S. A., a son.

DIED.

CARTER.—At Shirley, Va., March 8, Captain ROBERT B. CARTER, formerly Lieutenant U. S. Navy.

CHAVEN.—At San Diego, Cal., March 9, LOUIS STEVENSON CHAVEN, son of the late Commander Tunis A. Chaven, U. S. Navy.

CURTIS.—In Boston, Mass., March 11, Mrs. MARGARET STEVENSON CURTIS, widow of the late Charles Pelham Curtis, Esq.

ENDICOTT.—At Salem, Mass., March 11, aged 85, WILLIAM PETER ENDICOTT, father of Hon. W. C. Endicott, Secretary of War.

DIXON.—At Boston, Mass., Feb. 27, Carpenter JOHN A. DIXON, U. S. N., retired.

FRAILLEY.—On March 7, Mrs. C. M. B. FRAILLEY, widow of Dr. C. S. Frailley, and mother of Paymaster L. A. Frailley, U. S. Navy.

MILLER.—At Washington, D. C., March 12, of pneumonia, after a short illness, MARY JOSEPHINE MILLER, beloved wife of Capt. John A. Miller, U. S. Army.

PHILLIPS.—At Orondo, Me., Feb. 27, MRS. HATTIE W. PHILLIPS, the wife of Lieut. Chas. L. Phillips, 4th U. S. Artillery.

"NASAL VOICES, CATARRH AND FALSE TEETH."

A PROMINENT English woman says the American women all have high, shrill, nasal voices and false teeth.

Americans don't like the constant twitting they get about this nasal twang, and yet it is a fact caused by our dry stimulating atmosphere, and the universal presence of catarrhal difficulties.

But why should so many of our women have false teeth?

That is more of a poser to the English. It is quite impossible to account for it except on the theory of deranged stomach action caused by imprudence in eating and by want of regular exercise.

Both conditions are unnatural.

Catarrhal troubles everywhere prevail and end in cough and consumption, which are promoted by mal-nutrition induced by deranged stomach action. The condition is a modern one, one unknown to our ancestors who prevented the catarrh, cold, cough and consumption by abundant and regular use of what is now known as Warner's Log Cabin Cough and Consumption Remedy and Log Cabin Sarsaparilla, two old fashioned standard remedies handed down from our ancestors, and now exclusively put forth under the strongest guarantees of purity and efficacy by the world-famed makers of Warner's safe cure. These two remedies plentifully used as the spring and summer seasons advance give a positive assurance of freedom, both from catarrh and those dreadful and if neglected, inevitable consequences, pneumonia, lung troubles and consumption, which so generally and fatally prevail among our people.

Comrade Eli Fisher, of Salem, Henry Co., Iowa, served four years in the late war and contracted a disease called consumption by the doctors. He had frequent hemorrhages. After using Warner's Log Cabin Cough and Consumption remedy, he says under date of Jan. 19th, 1888: "I do not bleed at the lungs any more, my cough does not bother me, and I do not have any more smothering spells." Warner's Log Cabin Rose Cream cured his wife of catarrh and she is "sound and well."

Of course we do not like to have our women called nose talkers and false teeth owners, but these conditions can be readily overcome in the manner indicated.

Three Black Crows

"There were three crows sat on a tree,
And they were black as crows could be.
"Alas," said one, "would I were white,
Instead of being black as night."
"Such foolish wishing," said his friends,
"In disappointment often ends,
But now, forsooth, to make you white
Will be an easy matter, quite.
We'll wash you well with FAIRY SOAP,
And, when you're white, we fondly hope
That while you wonder at the feat,
Your happiness will be complete."

Behold him now as white as snow!
"Wonder of wonders!" saith the crow.
It FAIRY SOAP will make black white
"Twill surely all the world delight.
And mistress, mother, nurse and maid
Will find themselves, I know, well paid
In the use of FAIRY SOAP for all
The household needs—both great and small:
For dishes, babies, pots and pans,
For dirty clothes and milkmen's cans—
For woolen, cotton, dainty lace—
For cleaning every dirty place.
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Will make whate'er is dingy, bright.

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Assistant Quartermaster's Office, West
Point, N. Y., March 14th, 1888. Sealed Proposals, in triplicate, subject to the usual conditions, with copy of this advertisement attached, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock noon, the 14th day of April, 1888, at which time and place they will be opened in the presence of bidders for furnishing and delivering to the U. S. Quartermaster's Department at West Point, N. Y., such fuel, Forage and Straw, as may be required during the fiscal year, commencing July 1st, 1888. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Preference given to articles of domestic production and manufacture, conditions of price and quality being equal, and such preference given to articles of American production and manufacture produced on the Pacific Coast, to the extent of the consumption required by the public service there. Bids and full information will be furnished by this office upon application. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for Fuel, Forage and Straw," at West Point, New York, and addressed to the undersigned, CHAS. W. WILLIAMS, Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army.

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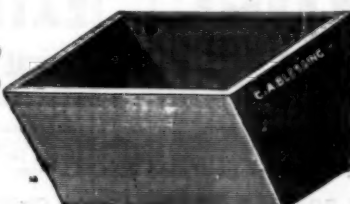
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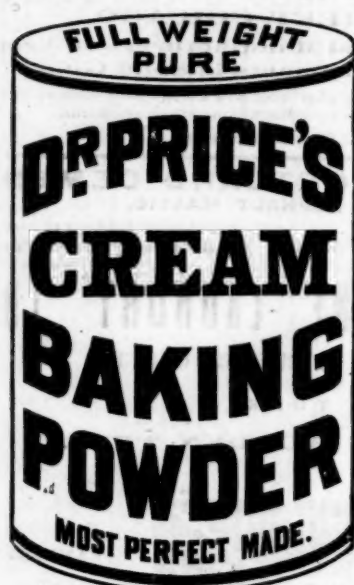
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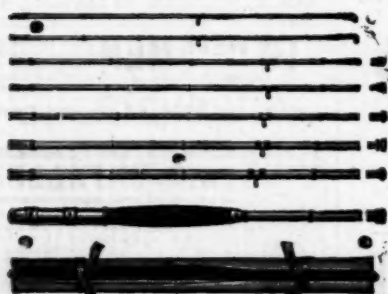


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